35¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

MAY 5th, 1977, ISSUE No. 16

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Introducing the world's strongest, most sensitive tubular rod. You've never seen, handled or fished anything like the incredible new UGLY STIK rods—with all the sensitivity of graphite combined with the strength of fiberglass in the strongest tubular rods ever made. It took Shakespeare to develop this revolutionary new kind of fishing rod because nobody else could. Only Shakespeare has the experience, skills and patents necessary to build the super sensitivity, recovery and light weight of graphite into the strongest tubular rods the world has ever seen. With clear powerful tips that simply will not break while fishing.

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***LIMITED WARRANTY I:** For 30 days from the date of purchase before July 31, 1977 the Shakespeare Company will repair, replace or refund the purchase price of your UGLY STIK rod if you are not totally delighted with the way it feels, handles and fishes.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 12, No. 16 MAY 5th, 1977

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Dominick DeRanieri of Brooklyn with 35 flounder up to 3 pounds taken at Nassau Point, buoy 22 on mussels and sandworms. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

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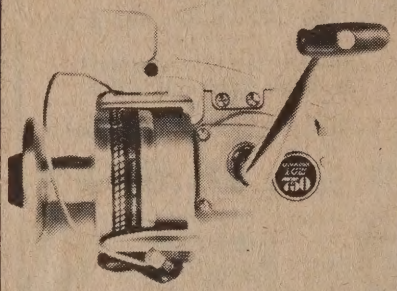

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EDITORIAL

Seats Will Open On The Regional Fisheries Management Councils

About one year ago we asked you to write to Governor Carey to request that he place the name of our Associate Editor, Dr. William A. Muller, in nomination to the U. S. Secretary of Commerce for appointment to a seat on the Regional Fisheries Management Councils.

Your response was fantastic, and we thank you. Largely because of your efforts, Dr. Muller's name was placed in nomination by the Governor.

However, what we did not know at the time was that the names were listed in order of the Governor's preference and unfortunately, Dr. Muller's name was not listed first in the sportfishing category.

This summer several seats will open on councils; however, they will not be among the three New York State appointees. But it is possible for an additional appointment to be made from New York State nominees.

In any event, it is imperative that pressure be brought to bear on Governor Carey so that he not only nominates Dr. Muller, but also ranks him first on his list of nominees.

We believe that it is very important that Dr. Muller be appointed to the council seat.

Why? First, other governmental agencies have recognized the value of Dr. Muller's skills, knowledge, and talents. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation requested Dr. Muller's expertise in an effort to clarify and organize a shellfish leasing program. Therefore, he sat on an Advisory Committee which discussed plans for future shellfish leasing. In April, 1977, Dr. Muller's name was placed in nomination to the New York State Assembly Advisory scientific staff to help with environmental questions.

Second, Dr. Muller has had varied in-depth experiences and training in marine science. He has studied, taught, done research, and published in the areas of ecological niche theory, marine physiological ecology, environmental stress, estuarine productivity, community succession, and ecological modelling. He has also studied and published in the area of fisheries biology—of prime importance to the councils.

Dr. Muller has also maintained a close contact with sportfishermen through community and club lectures, angling techniques demonstrations and clinics, and personal communication. He also fishes hard and shares these experiences with all of us through articles published in The Long Island Fisherman, and national sportfishing publications.

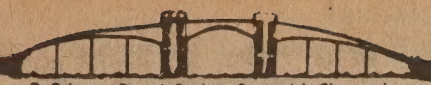
In short, he has his fingers on the pulse of saltwater fishing: both from the scientific and grass-roots perspective. He knows what the quality of fishing used to be, is, and should be, and if appointed to the council he will fight hard for the future of our fisheries.

Please write Governor Carey today, and if you have an extra piece of paper, please write to your Assemblyman and State Senator. Urge them to write to the governor. Ask them to request the Governor's support of Dr. Muller.

Once again, we thank you for your help.

Honorable Hugh Carey
Governor of the State of New York
Governor's Mansion
Albany, N.Y.

Scott F. Simon



At Atlantic Beach Bridge, Reynolds Channel

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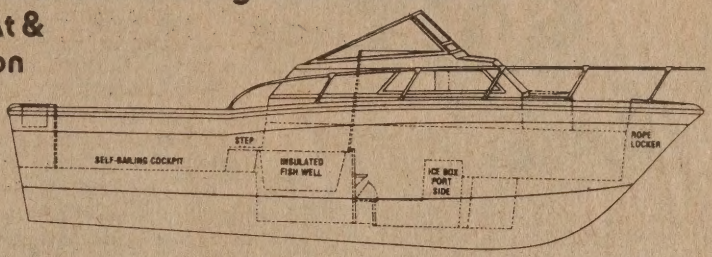

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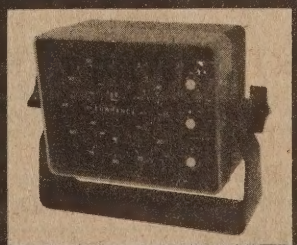

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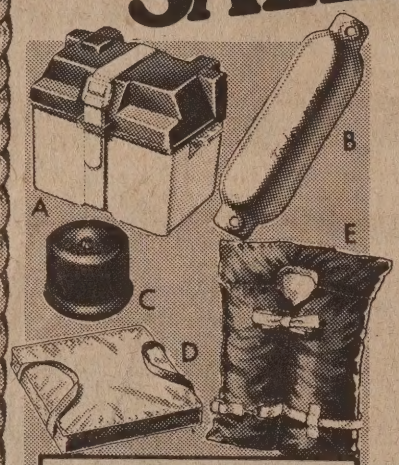

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TSS TRUE USUAL 5.49 **3.99**
Keeps battery clean & dry. Molded polyethylene, hold-down strap. 11"x7½"x10"H.

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White vinyl guaranteed for the life of your boat.
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BOATING

U.S.C.G. AUXILIARY ENLISTMENT DRIVE FOR MEMBERSHIP

Division 19, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, which covers most of the North Shore of Suffolk County, is conducting a **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** for all its Flotillas, now operating in Kings Park, Stony Brook, Port Jefferson, Mount Sinai and Miller Place.

Individuals (civilians, and ex-service people) with an interest in public service in the area of boating safety, are encouraged to seek further information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary and to consider joining the National Organization authorized by Congress in 1939.

This non-military organization operates in cooperation and specific regulations under direct orders of the U. S. Coast Guard, for the purpose of promoting safety on water, in an effort to prevent accident and tragedy. These volunteers instruct free safe boating courses open to the public.

COURTESY MOTOR BOAT EXAMINATION PROGRAM: This inspection is another part of the Auxiliary's effort to advise boaters of the proper equipment required aboard and assist those who may not be aware of safety precautions. Auxiliarists represent a special kind of fellowship that goes beyond their own organization. All through the boating season, members of the Auxiliary man their boats, with required crews, and set out under official Coast Guard orders to patrol assigned areas, sometimes just cruising and very often with specific destinations to assist a boat in trouble. To perfect their own efficiency during operations, members of the Auxiliary are ever continuing their own education with special courses in communication and radio procedures, search and rescue techniques, as well as other courses.

Division XIX, U.S.C.G. Auxiliary will welcome new and dedicated members to their respected and constructive team. Anyone interested in becoming a member may contact the Kings Park Flotilla 19-3.

Membership Officer: R. Cafarella, 515-269-6596, or Pub. Rel. Officer: D. Carcich, 516-864-4701.

U.S.C.G.A. FREE SAFETY EXAMINATION

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary conducts free examinations on pleasure boats for legal and safety requirements. Division XXII invites all trailer boat owners to bring their boats to the Walt Whitman Mall, where there will be a manned Station north of the A&S Tire Center. **Dates:** May 7th & 8th. **Time:** 11AM to 6PM.

REWARD

FOR
Tagged Stripers

Texas Instruments is conducting an environmental study to determine the movements and populations size of the striped bass in the Hudson River, along with their contribution to the coastal sport and commercial fisheries. An estimated 3000 striped bass will be tagged from March through June. Texas Instruments will pay a $5 cash reward for each tag. To obtain the reward on your fish, return the tag along with the date, method and specific location of capture to:

Texas Instruments Inc.
P.O. Box 237
Buchanan, N.Y. 10511

Buy a Powerwinch for one reason. You'll find dozens of other uses for it.

Among boat owners, Powerwinch® is the favorite electric winch by far. Not surprisingly, most owners soon find lots of other uses for this versatile tool: moving logs and boulders, handling off-road vehicles, stacking hay, moving stuck cars and trucks, etc.

If the only thing you need a Powerwinch for is to move your boat, it's an important tool. When you add in all the other things you can do with a Powerwinch, it's even more essential. Take a look at Powerwinch today and consider all the ways it can save you time and money. You'll agree, Powerwinch is a great investment.

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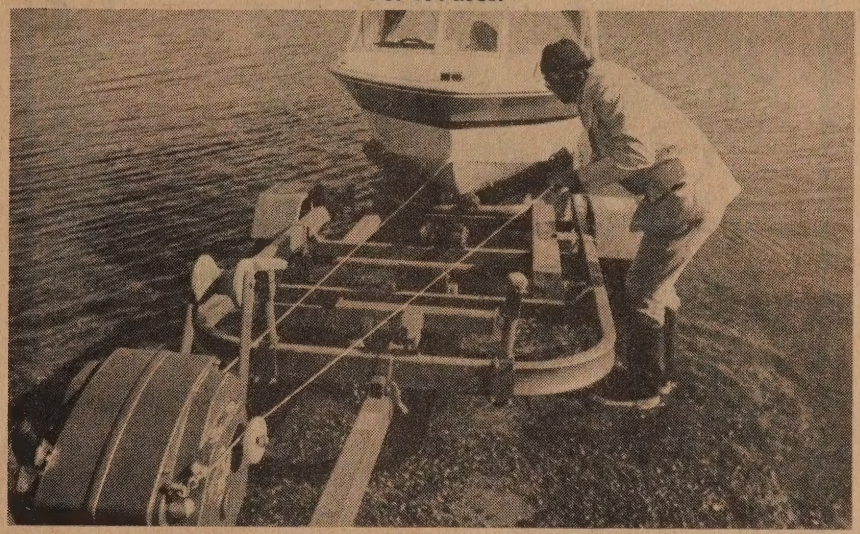
For 101 uses.



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ROBALO 200. A most accommodating 20 footer. More storage, more freeboard and freedom of movement. A well planned canvas-convenience package is avail. to make her an overnighter. Length 19'4¾", Beam 8 foot.

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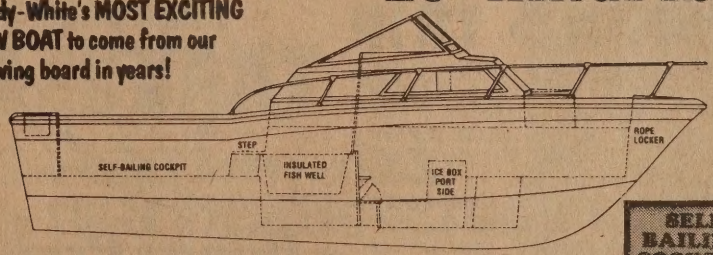
GW

25' KINGFISH

Grady-White's MOST EXCITING NEW BOAT to come from our drawing board in years!



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Transom Height	52"	Transom Width	8'11"
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James D. McAdam Did:

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IGFA All-Tackle Record Holder
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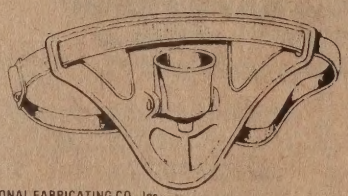
The Long Island FISHERMAN CONTEST

FISHING TRIP

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.



NATIONAL FABRICATING CO., Inc.
130 Lambert Ave., Copiague, N.Y. 11726

★ Bonus Prize ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

There was once again no winner for our Contest, so next week's winner shall receive $40 instead of the usual $10 plus a free fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his/her choice.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

905-USN

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

Contests & Tournaments

MASONIC STATE FISHING TOURNAMENT

Each year, the Masonic Grand Lodge of the State of New York sponsors a statewide fishing tournament, which is open to all Lodges and Brothers (and their wives, children, grandchildren, or parents). Grand Lodge trophies, plaques and other awards are given for one's proficiency.

For additional information, any interested Mason can contact the fishing chairman of his individual Lodge, or Bud Dorman, P. O. Box 913, Montauk, New York 11954 (Chairman, Salt Water Division), or Carroll F. Blanchard, 206 Whitehall Road, Albany, New York (Chairman, Fresh Water Division).

SHARK FISHING CONTEST

All shark fishing enthusiasts keep your calendars open for June 25th and 26th, because South Sea Charters and Charvin Fishing Station are sponsoring the 2nd Annual Charvin Open Shark Tournament. To the one who catches the largest shark goes first prize of $2500; he who lands the largest Mako gets rewarded with $500. Entry fee is $125. per boat, and for further information, contact Charvin Fishing Station, 378-8748, or South Sea Charters, 868-2039.

Pass It On...

MECLI MEETING NOTICE

An open public meeting of the Marine Environmental Council of Long Island (MECLI) will be held Thursday, May 5th at 8:00 P.M., at the Bowery Savings Bank, 5100 Sunrise Highway, Massapequa, L.I., (2nd floor meeting room—use rear entrance.) Special program will be a film: Solar Energy—Alternative Concept.

For further information, telephone George H. Wilde - 515- SU 5-3139 or Vincent J. Franco - 515-221-1434.

CLUB NEWS

"SALTY" FLYRODDERS

The next regular meeting of the "SALTY" Flyrodders of New York, Inc., will be held on May 2nd at 8 P.M. in the lower hall of the Grace Lutheran Church, 31-20 21st Avenue, Astoria, New York.

Joe Falke will present a program on the use of the appropriate equipment for fishing Shelter Island. This will include rods, lines, waders, stripping basket, and proper retrieves for the different situations.

In the Fly Tying Corner, Bill Bradshaw will demonstrate how to dress the Shelter Island Fly.

There will be instructions all evening in tying tippets and leaders, backing splices and fly line splices. All areas will be covered, and you should leave with enough knowledge to be an accomplished salt water fly rodder.

This meeting is so significant that your success in the coming season may very well depend on your attending this session.

FISHING CLUB SHEEPSHEAD BAY HIGH SCHOOL

On Saturday, April 23rd, Sheepshead Bay HS Fishing Advisor, Will Daskal, joined the hopeful aboard Capt. Jim Behan's luxurious **Peconic Queen III** out of Montauk, New York in the hope of catching some of those fabled monster codfish.

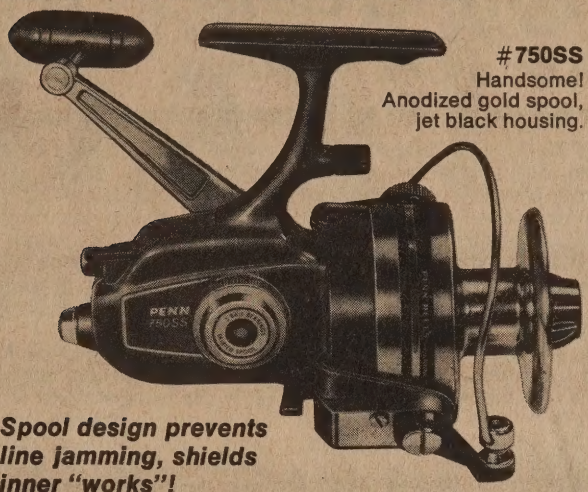
Joined by high school student and brother-in-law, Bruce DeMeglio, the pair fished under extremely arduous conditions. Despite the rainy and gloomy skies, despite the occasional showers, despite the incredible 25 knot winds, and despite the wind-with-tide angling conditions, the pair managed to bag five giant cod apiece.

The highlight of the day for Mr. Daskal was landing a hefty, 26 pound cod on 12 pound test line—somewhat of a gargantuan struggle. The crew of the **Peconic Queen III** is to be commended for its superb personal service, and thoughtfulness. They worked continuously, and not a single crew member fished at all for himself. More Captains should follow suit.

The Club was firmly convinced that Capt. Behan is not only a knowledgeable seaman, but an expert fisherman as well. He made the type of fishing coincide with wind, current, and tidal conditions all day long.

Mr. Daskal intends to take the entire fishing club out to Montauk this June when the bigger fish move in and take up residence for the summer. If this past weekend is any indication of things to come, this year's cod run looms as one of the best of the last few seasons.

NEW PENN® "SPINFISHER®" HAS SKIRTED SPOOL



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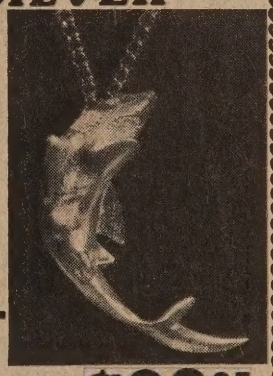

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Fish Talk
with Dr. W.A. Muller

Weakfish Life Cycle
Cynoscion regalis

SPRING IN THE DEEP OCEAN. The waters of the Atlantic Ocean usually start to warm in March, but the process may begin as early as late Feburary. The temperature of the shallow coastal ocean rises out of the thirties into the forties by early April and many species of living things come to life.

FIFTY FATHOM WINDOW. However, the deep waters south-southeast of the northeast coast are slower to warm. Fifty fathoms of plankton-rich water filters the warming rays of the sun. But like taxes, the warmth of the spring inexorably comes in April.

THE PURPLE RIVER. A long, narrow river that stretches along the Continental Shelf from Rhode Island to DelMarva, and consists of approximately 500 million weakfish, comes to life.

MIGRATION TO THE BEACH. The warm, shallow coastal water is a magnet that pulls the river of weaks towards the beach. By the third or fourth week in April, in the northern part of its range and the first or second week of this month in the southern part of its range, the advance guard of weaks has entered inlets, harbors, and bays.

PHYSIOLOGICAL CHANGES have occurred during the migration towards the coast and the gonads are ripening: hundreds of thousands of maturing eggs swell the ovaries in each female and sperm-rich milt ripens in the testes of each male.

SPAWNING AMONG MOST LARGE individuals will be delayed, however, until the temperature of the bay and Sound waters reaches into the mid and upper 50s. Smaller adult fish will probably attempt to spawn early, but unpredictable weather conditions and cold water doom most of the eggs and fry..

THE BIG SPAWNERS HAVE ARRIVED; their time has not yet come and they will not eat. Their presence blackens the recorder. If the initial spawning of small fish is a trickle, the onset of major spawning is a flood. The fish frequently swarm on the surface as the females drop their ripe eggs, and the males spray them with white milt.

SPAWNING WEAKFISH are oblivious to anglers: neither cruising boats nor excited voices put them down. It is perhaps the most exciting ritual of life—the creation of the next generation.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS OPINION, but I think that the talk of a consensus concerning the whereabouts of weakfish spawning is a waste of time. Each year, we are told things like: weakfish spawn in such-and-such a bay, but not in so-and-so bay. I must warn those who would be quick to believe this discussion that I have not performed any experiments to prove my point.

WEAKFISH SPAWN IN MANY BAYS. But observations are observations, even if they are casual. I have seen juvenile (5-7 inches) weakfish in almost every shallow body of water that I have fished in Northeastern states. I doubt that newly-hatched fry will swim hundreds of miles from one bay to another during the summer. They don't have the strength for it, they would have a lot of trouble avoiding predators during migration, and there simply is no profit in migration at this stage of life.

SPAWNING IS STAGGERED. As spawning staggers to its conclusion, the spawned-out fish begin to feed, and that's when we have our day. We beat our brains out too early, but that's our ritual. Inexorably, fish and fishermen come together to close the circle on another part of the life cycle: Death.

BUT LET'S FOLLOW THE DEVELOPING EGGS that now may be floating in open water or nestled in the protection of the eelgrass (**Zostera**) beds.

WHEN THE EGGS HATCH, THE FRY, still attached to the egg sac, begin to swim erratically about. When the egg sac is consumed, the juveniles begin a feeding orgy that will result in an increase in size from barely a few millimeters to five to seven inches by September. Mortality is high during the first few months. Fertile eggs are eaten by every living thing that's big enough to swallow the tiny egg, and predation is heavy on juveniles as well. By late summer predation pressure eases, but the respite is not destined to last too long.

YOUNG OF THE YEAR HEAD SOUTH. When the first northeast storms begin to whiz up the coast, and their backlash northwest winds put a chill into the night air, the young of the year start to migrate out of the bays and swim south. How far south they'll swim is still a matter of varying opinion, but I'd be surprised if they go further than the Chesapeake area.

THE SOUTHWARD MIGRATION IS A DANGEROUS ONE. They travel in schools that may number in the millions and they stay in shallow water. But the fall season changes also stimulates the migration of bass, blues, large weakfish, albacore, bonita, big fluke, and sharks. Each of these predator species takes its share, and the weakfish millions are dissipated.

MILLIONS OF YOUNG OF THE YEAR WEAKFISH reach their winter grounds safe and sound. The adults have not followed their progeny along this route. Instead, they swim seaward back into fifty to fifty-five fathoms of water off the coast.

CYCLE REPEATS. The following spring the adults will once again swim in from the ocean depths to spawn. However, the one-year-olds will not be with them; their arrival delayed by two factors. One, they must migrate many hundreds of miles north from the wintering grounds, and because they are small, they must move slowly, feeding as they come. They are not big enough yet to store enough fat to carry them through the long migration. Second, they are still juveniles and they require slightly higher water temperatures for comfort.

YOUNG ARRIVE AFTER SPAWNERS HAVE LEFT. But they arrive in our water sometime between the middle of June and the middle of July. When they arrive, these half to pound-and-one-half fish provide solid sport for summer sinker-bouncing, bait fishermen. When autumn storms drive the mature adults from the surf zone into the open sea, the young weaks now in their second and third year, will leave the bays and follow the adults to a winter home well off the coast.

Next Week: Ecological considerations—Weakfish.

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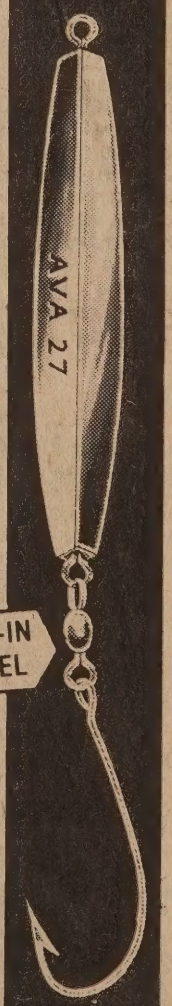

AVA TACKLE CO.
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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

MACKEREL FISHING

Hey Joe! Mackerel are in! Filled a tub yesterday!

Each spring, the heralding of this news is eagerly awaited by thousands of local anglers. It is the signal that long-awaited schools of these gamey fish have finally arrived off Long Island's shores.

Out come the gleaming jigs, the glistening spoons and multi-colored mackerel trees. Dulled chrome, nickel and stainless finishes are painstakingly polished to their original luster. Hook points are honed to needle-sharpness. Those broken, bent or rusted, are replaced with tender care.

Demand for mossbunker chum soars. Party boats, carrying swinging loads of happy-go-lucky mackerel fishermen, speedily make their way to the offshore grounds. It is rare that a charter boat remains tied to its pier. For a few short weeks, pandemonium reigns supreme.

Such is the lure of mackerel fishing. To enjoy this fishing to the nth degree, proper tackle is important. A medium-weight boat rod with a matching conventional revolving spool reel capable of holding a hundred yards of fifteen or twenty pound test monofilament is ideal. Because the average mackerel caught off Long Island weighs a pound to a pound and a half, anything heavier than medium-weight stuff will cut down on the sport.

It's true that spinning rods and matching open-face reels offer much excitement for the mackerel fisherman—but not aboard party boats! The reason for this is readily apparent. Mackerel are tough scrappers for their size, and when hooked they immediately pour on the steam, zipping here and there, running in wide circles when allowed the upper hand, often boring down and under the boat.

All of these antics make control difficult for the angler using light spinning equipment. Hooked on such tackle, mackerel are almost certain to entangle the lines of fellow fishermen who are also busily struggling with their fish. Tempers are quite likely to flare.

Especially is this true when double and triple-headers are hooked simultaneously—a common occurrence when mackerel trees are in use. Mackerel fishing means frantic fishing and anglers employing light spinning equipment at this time will find themselves in difficulty aboard party boats. For fishermen who insist upon this tackle, I believe it is better to use it aboard private or charter craft only.

When novice fishermen see mackerel flying over the rails in what seems to be never-ending profusion, it is often difficult for them to believe that these fish are line shy. Take my word for it—they are. I've done plenty of experimentation in this area over the years and found that fishermen using lines of low visibility always have the edge. Therefore, monofilament is the line to use.

When fishing mackerel, my conventional reel is usually filled with ten-pound test mono. I use this light line because I fish only with a diamond jig. Rarely do I use multi-hook rigs. I leave the fifteen and twenty-pound test stuff for the fishermen using mackerel trees; plus those who truly enjoy catching double and triple headers.

Now, unquestionalby, catching these double and triple headers is loads of fun. But as far as I'm concerned, unless the fisherman also particularly enjoys cleaning a hundred or so mackerel, and also knows for certain that he's going to have use for this vast amount, I find it best to use just the jig. When a mackerel bonanza starts, the use of a jig alone will supply all the fish any angler can handle comfortably.

Mackerel attack lures with gusto. No fooling around for these lightning-swift bits of dynamite. Pow! Let's go, feller! I can only describe a mackerel strike as a rod-bending blow. It isn't necessary to hook the fish when using artificial lures. It will do that for you. When using a combination diamond jig and mackerel tree, the angler will often hook other fish when reeling to the surface. No doubt about it, mackerel fishing is wild fishing!

In my estimation, the beauty of mackerel fishing is that, it enables the bait fisherman to temporarily change his spots and use the tried and proven diamond jig, but this isn't to imply other lures won't work. I've caught many mackerel on Swedish Pimples and Hopkins Shorties. And there have been times when the popular Kastmaster worked wonders when jigged.

There's one thing about these lures that I find important: they should be equipped with treble hooks. From my own experience, I find that when these lures have treble hooks, they produce more mackerel. When using these lures, those weighing two to three ounces bring better results than the larger sizes. Mackerel favor these smaller lures.

When weighted with a jig, mackerel trees have proven to be great fish-catchers. Some fishermen dispense with the jig and attach a three or four ounce sinker to get the rig down to the depth in which the fish are feeding. I'm not too keen about this, except in emergencies when suitable lures are available. What the fisherman overlooks is that it is the flash of the jig that attracts mackerel to the rig.

Especially is this true when the main body of mackerel has not yet worked into the chum. However, once this has happened and the fishing begins in earnest, they will hit anything offered. And I mean just that: anything! I've experimented many times and have caught mackerel on strips of waxed paper, pieces of white rag, and even bare hooks that have a tinned or cadium plated finish. Bronzed or blued hooks leave much to be desired in this respect.

For the fisherman lacking a mackerel tree, one can quickly be made by using three or four unsnelled 2/0 regular-shanked O'Shaughnessy or Limerick hooks. Just form three-inch loops in your main line with double-overhand knots. These should be about eight inches apart. Run the loop through the hook eye, then over the hook and secure tightly by snubbing against the shank.

You will notice that these loops also serve as snells and will hold the hooks out and away from the main line. Works fine as mackerel have no misgivings about striking bare hooks—especially when on a feeding rampage. Don't forget, though, that the hooks must have a bright finish for good results. Jigging with a quick snap of the wrist will quickly draw the attention of cruising mackerel. Remember, be sure to use a diamond jig or other highly polished lure to get the rig down to the necessary depth.

It is often frustrating for the beginning mackerel fisherman to watch veteran anglers hook fish after fish with comparative ease—especially when all his efforts to succeed go in vain. If he is rigged properly and doing his share of the necessary jigging to attract fish, there can only be one thing wrong. He isn't fishing at the proper depth. Bear in mind that no matter how thick the fish may be around the boat, they are only feeding at a certain level, a level that can change from hour to hour. Missing that all-important depth can only bring poor results.

The quickest way to find the correct depth is to ask any angler who is catching fish. I find, however, that this is not necessarily the best method. Unless the querried angler has much mackerel experience, depth quoted is usually approximate. What may seem to be twenty feet to him may actually be twenty-five or fifteen, and those few feet can, and do, make the difference between a good catch and one that is mediocre.

Until the beginning angler has enough experience to develop his own "feel" for depth, the best method is to allow the lure to reach bottom and begin a moderate retrieve, jigging all the while until the first mackerel is hooked.

There's a little known fact about this method of fishing. Quite often the angler will locate another school hovering below the main body of fish. These mackerel are sometimes much larger than those fish responding to the chum. I have won many mackerel pools with this method. The reason for this is apparent. Mackerel of one school seldom vary more than a few ounces in weight from each other. And because of that, the enterprising fisherman with his sights set on the pool should keep this trick in mind whenever the opportunity presents itself.

The successful mackerel fisherman is the one who comes prepared for any eventuality. Therefore, when the first mackerel is hooked, the line should be given a dab of quick-drying marker ink. Don't concern yourself about the struggling fish getting free while doing this. If it should, which is doubtful, there are hundreds more milling around at that depth, ready and willing to do battle.

A word of caution here. Marker ink is best to use. Resist

the temptation to make a knot in your line as a marker. Knots weaken monofilament, are difficult to untie, and are sure to leave a potential line-parting knot. You'll find too, that knots often become enmeshed on the reel's spool, causing no end of trouble. A word to the wise is sufficient: use marker ink.

It is common knowledge that mackerel will strike any shiny object flashed before them, therefore, it is best to forego all hardware when rigging.

Tie your jig or mackerel tree directly to the main line with an Improved Clinch Knot. Snaps and barrel swivels can be purchased in dull finishes if the ease and convenience they afford is felt to be necessary. I believe, though, that you will catch more mackerel without them.

So far what has been written has pertained to mackerel fishing aboard party boats. But what about the fisherman who'd like to catch mackerel aboard his own craft? Not difficult at all.

It is true that on occasion migrating schools of mackerel will enter deep water harbors and inlets, but as this happens so seldom around Long Island, the tyro mackerel fisherman is advised to concentrate his efforts on the open sea. Long Island Sound also affords great mackerel fishing and large schools are often encountered. The same methods used in the sea will work in the Sound.

During the early part of the run, mackerel are found in water shallow as forty feet. If the fisherman works from there to the hundred foot depth, he should have no trouble locating a school. If there is some hesitation about this, try a depth of fifty feet first. Rock-studded bottoms in deep water are good, but avoid fishing over wrecks unless they are in fairly deep water—say at least seventy feet.

Avoid mackerel fishing in rough seas whenever possible. A flat sea with a wind-rippled surface is ideal. To the old-timer, this is known as a mackerel sea, and with good reason. Most of my outstanding catches have been made when the surface was in this condition. Schools are easier to locate then, and I find too, that the fish respond quicker to the chum line.

Mackerel are skittish and will quickly leave an area when frightened. So be sure to approach your fishing spot with stealth and extreme quiet. It is far better to work to windward or up-tide, cut the engine, and drift down to the area. No splashing of the anchor should be done. Don't be over-anxious to begin fishing. Wait until the boat settles and you know for certain how it will lay on its anchor before getting the chum going.

Many fishermen won't agree, but I believe the best method for successful mackerel fishing is to use mossbunker chum. I know many fishermen who never do this. They are content to drift or troll through known mackerel grounds and take their chances. But in my estimation, fishermen can't go wrong with chum.

There is an art to mackerel chumming. It should always be done with deliberate finesse. Proper dispensing is far from a contest to see who on board can get rid of the most chum in the fastest possible time.

Doing your chumming in this haphazard manner is guaranteed to keep the fish out of reach. They will mill about just beyond range, picking at the plentiful supply of chum as it drifts to them. The idea is to whet the mackerel's appetite just enough so that they will be tempted to follow the chum line to its source of supply.

Chum is purchased in pre-ground, frozen blocks. It should be thawed in sea water before fishing and stirred to the consistency of thin soup and then ladled sporadically into the tide. A suitable container holding about a pint, secured to a flat stick, makes an ideal dispenser.

Proper chumming is learned by experience only, but a good way to get the mackerel close to the boat is to ladle a half-dozen scoops out about ten feet into the tide. Then add two or three scoops directly alongside and start fishing. Add a scoop or two every few minutes until the fish respond and remember to sweeten the chum line while the fishing is in progress. Failure to do this will cause a break in the chum line. When this happens, the fish will move off and unless you are extremely lucky to find another school in the area, you have your work to do over again.

Give mackerel a try soon. They don't stay long in one area. I'm sure when you do, you will be next to shout: "Hey Joe! Mackerel are in! Filled a tub yesterday!"

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Announcing the Formation of

THE LONG ISLAND SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

On March 18, 1977, The Long Island Fisherman convened an emergency meeting of sportfishermen at the Holiday Inn in Plainview for the purpose of gathering ideas and feelings about a saltwater fishing license, so that representatives of the sportfishing community could decide for themselves what to do specifically to defeat the then-pending Kidder/Present Bill to establish a saltwater fishing license and what to do about similar legislation that can be expected in the future.

The banquet hall was almost filled to capacity with over 180 people attending the meeting. The representatives covered a wide spectrum of the sportfishing community, with 43 fishing clubs and organizations participating in the discussion as well as many open and charter boat captains, bait and tackle shop owners, row boat station operators, marina owners and individual fishermen.

The group was virtually unanimous in the opinion that any saltwater fishing license legislation should be opposed vehemently with a united voice from sportfishermen. As a result, it was decided unanimously by those attending the meeting that representatives of the sportfishing community would meet again to form *The Long Island Sportfishing Council,* which would be the official organization to present the views and interests of local sportfishing to the news media and government officials on matters considered to be vital to the sport, now and in the future. The last census figures showed that there were 2.3 million saltwater anglers in the New York area, an unusually large special interest group to have such minimal political influence due to the lack of any type of representative organization. It will be the primary purpose of *The Long Island Sportfishing Council* to fill this need.

The Long Island Fisherman was asked by Commissioner Peter A. Berle, Department of Environmental Conservation, and by Tony Taormina, the Department's Director of Marine and Coastal Resources, to ask members of the sportfishing community to set up an Advisory Board to the DEC to provide advice and input to any matters being considered by the Department related to the marine environment. This request was passed on at the meeting to those attending, and it was decided to take the DEC up on the offer. As there were grave reservations about the possibility of such a Sportfishing Advisory Board being manipulated into becoming a "rubber stamp" for DEC projects, the guidelines and capacity the sportfishermen would agree to "advise" under, would be one of the first tasks *The Long Island Sportfishing Council* would undertake.

The Long Island Fisherman was asked at the meeting to publish a questionnaire that anglers could fill out giving their ideas on how the Council could be set up. We agreed, but have had difficulty in deciding just how to make up such a questionnaire. So in its place, we have outlined one way the Council could be set up and ask that readers send us written comments on any new ideas, improvements on those presented, etc. The Long Island Fisherman has agreed to act as a clearing house for these ideas and to act as a coordinator to see that the Council is set up in a manner that would allow it to function most effectively. Once the Council has been set up and is functioning smoothly, The Long Island Fisherman will disassociate itself so that the Council can work without any media influence other than that desired or requested. During this set-up period, however, money will be needed for renting meeting halls, postage and mailing, printed matter, etc. In an attempt to cover these costs and get the show on the road, The Fisherman has donated two-thousand dollars for the purpose of setting up *The Long Island Sportfishing Council.* The Council will be expected to set up some system for raising money for its operating expenses for the time that this initial funding runs out.

The outline which follows only serves to establish credentials for those who will sit on the Council. If you meet the requirements and wish to apply for a "seat," just fill out the application and mail it to The Fisherman. Those applying for such a seat and have the suggested credentials, will attend the first meeting of *The Long Island Sportfishing Council* which will be held at the Holiday Inn in Plainview (Exit 46, L.I. Expressway), on Wednesday, May 25th at 8:00 p.m. At that time, the Council will officially begin to function after the final form, goals, policies, etc., have been voted on by those attending. Meanwhile, get in those letters with your suggestions on the Council! Send them to: *The Long Island Sportfishing Council,* P. O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963.

Application For A Seat On
THE LONG ISLAND SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip .....

Telephone Number .....

I would like to apply for a Seat on The Long Island SPORTFISHING COUNCIL, with the Seat classification checked below:

OPEN/PARTY BOAT
Name of Vessel is: .....

CHARTER BOAT
Name of Vessel is: .....

TACKLE SHOP SEAT
Name of Shop is: .....

BOAT LIVERY
Name of Station is: .....

MARINA
Name of Business is: .....

AT-LARGE
(See attached letter outling my credentials.)

FISHING ORGANIZATION
(Attach a letter from either an Officer or member of the Board of Directors of your fishing club or organization that designates you as their representative on the Council.)

If my credentials are in order, I will attend the first official meeting of The Long Island Sportfishing Council on Wednesday, May 25th.

SIGNATURE .....

Mail application Special Delivery, Return Receipt Requested, to:

The Long Island Sportfishing Council
P O BOX 1994 • SAG HARBOR, N.Y. 11963

Proposal For

THE LONG ISLAND SPORTFISHING COUNCIL

The Long Island Sportfishing Council will consist of members of the sportfishing community who will hold a "seat" representing either a commercial enterprise or individuals belonging to a fishing club or oganization. Each segment of the sportfishing community will elect a representative from their group to serve on the Council's Board of Directors.

COUNCIL SEATS

There will be seven classifications of seats on the Council. The seat classifications and the credentials needed to hold them are:

Open/Party Boat Seat

Must be either the owner and/or operator of a documented open or party boat sailing from a Long Island port. (Note: Local boatmen's organizations are also invited to hold a seat on the Council to represent their memberships' views.)

Charter Boat Seat

Must be either the licensed owner and/or operator of a charter boat sailing from a Long Island port.

Tackle Shop Seat

Must be either the owner and/or operator of an establishment whose primary business is selling bait and/or tackle to fishermen.

Boat Livery Seat

Must be either the owner and/or operator of a facility that rents boats and motors to fishermen on a daily basis.

Fishing Organization Seat

Fishing Clubs and Organizations that wish to hold a seat on the Council must designate one of their members to represent them with a seat on the Council. Such designated representative must have a letter from either the President of the Board of Directors of the club/organization to establish his/her credentials for a seat on the Council. A club/organization can change their designated representative at any time with a new letter. By definition, a fishing club or organization is: any group consisting of twelve or more anglers that hold meetings on a regular basis and have elective offices.

Marina Seat

Must be either the owner and/or operator of an establishment whose primary business is either renting dockage, boating facilities or services, or retails boats, motors, marine electronics or boating equipment to fishermen.

At-Large Seats

At-Large seats on the Council will be held by individuals designated by the Council as capable and willing to provide a service deemed necessary to fulfill the goals of the Council. These individuals may be members of the media (fishing columnists, outdoor writers, authors, etc.) legal counsel, members of conservationist groups, tackle manufacturers, elected and appointed political officials, etc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There will be ten seat-holding Council members on the Board of Directors of *The Long Island Sportfishing Council*, representing the following interests:

1. **Open/Party Boats**
2. **Charter Boats**
3. **Boat Liveries**
4. **Tackle Shops**
5. **Marinas**
6. **Fishing Clubs (12-30)**
7. **Fishing Clubs (Over 30)**
8. **Media**
9. **At-Large**
10. **Legal Counsel**

Each of the seven seat classifications will have a representative on the Board of Directors that they will elect. *Example:* members holding a "Charter Boat" seat will be the only ones voting for the Charter Boat representative on the Council's Board of Directors. Fishing clubs and organizations will have two representatives on the Board of Directors: one rep for clubs with 12 to 30 active members and one rep for those with 31 or more active members. The media representative and the At-Large representative on the Board of Directors will be determined by a vote of all Council members regardless of their seat classification. The Legal Counsel representative will be voluntary, and appointed after a confirmation vote by the entire Council membership. Fisherman/lawyers that are willing to donate some of their valuable time to the Council will be greatly appreciated, as it will be necessary to have legal counsel in order for the Council to interpret laws, legislation, legal action or litigation, etc.

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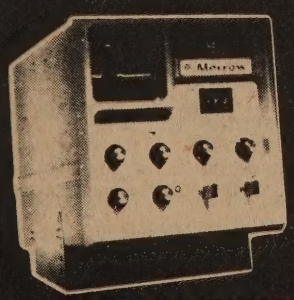

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Surf Side with John Fritz

Do Unto Others

Over the course of years, when talking to would-be fishermen, the question usually arises as to the distance from the beach required in order to catch the occasional cow size bass or blue I was lucky enough to capture. When the inquirer is informed that the fish were caught from the beach and not from a boat they are amazed. The next question invariably follows as to where he can go with his 5 foot flounder rod so he can duplicate my catch. It is about this point in the conversation that I tell him that if they want to catch a lot of fish they should go out and obtain a boat.

The answer often is, "What do I need a boat for, look what you did from the beach."

Then it starts. The often repeated story about the long hours, loss of sleep, uncomfortable weather, repeated dunkings, the specialized equipment, etc., etc. Which brings me to the point, which you already are aware of, that the surfcaster earns any fish he comes by. Catching a fish in the pounding surf is more rewarding than hauling him in on the end of 300 feet of wire but the extra effort involved in the former method of fishing is not suited to every fisherman's taste. Because of the difficulties encountered from outside sources it is uncalled for when the surfman has to contend with inconsiderations and sometimes vicious acts from his own clan.

While I am still the proud owner of a 15 foot MFG, it has gathered a good layer of dust over the past few years. There was a time though when I used it quite frequently, trolling and or casting for bass and blues in the waters of Fire Island Inlet, the North Shore, or off Montauk Point. Besides the minor inconvenience involved in weather watching and after use cleaning, I found that the percentage of inconsiderate fishermen in the boats was much greater than that found on the beach. This is probably true because they are remote from each other, each in his own noisy machine. The stronger bond of fellowship is felt more when everyone is on the same footing, suffering the same discomforts. Then again there are always a given amount of people who just don't give a damn for other people and probably never will. These few lines will not make them change their ways, but for those of you who are relatively new to this business of surfcasting, I'll try to point out a few do's and don'ts which can make this enjoyable sport that much more enjoyable.

I guess we might as well start with the use of lights on the beach, whether they are car headlights, gas lanterns, or the smaller neck lights.

When a surfman is performing his ritual in the inky blackness of night there is nothing more annoying than to have an unthinking buggy operator sit on the beach with his headlights directed at the fisherman in the water. Whether this is done intentionally or not it will gain the offending party little more than a string of epitaphs if not worse. Besides the fact that the sudden light can spook the fish, anyone working in darkness acquires a certain amount of night vision after his eyes become accustomed to the lesser amount of light. Any light that is allowed to shine in his eyes will destroy this built-up vision for a matter of minutes. This person is out in the water working for his fish, if you are too lazy to get out of the car and walk to the water's edge to see if he has any action the least you can do is kill your headlights and not ruin his fishing.

I realize that you need headlights in order to see where you are driving, but at these times you are mostly driving parallel to the water's edge. If the contour of the beach causes your lights to shine in the water that is another matter and

therefore excusable. What I'm talking about is when the buggy is pulled head-on to the surf. Before you swing the nose towards the water glance at the ground where you intend to park for obstructions, hit your switch to the parking light position and slowly drive into the spot desired. When leaving your parking spot headlights are of no use at all until after the vehicle is backed out and the nose of the car is turned away from the water.

The small neck light worn by surfcasters at night, though not as powerful, can be just as offensive at times. Don't approach a stranger in the darkness and shine your light into that party's face to see if he is an acquaintance. Also when fishing calm, shallow water turn your back to the area you are fishing if you have to use the light. The task of gaffing a fish can, on most occasions, be accomplished without the aid of artificial light, for there is sufficient night glow to enable you to see your fish in the water. A sudden flash of light can spark your quarry into renewed efforts towards freedom. On the other hand when you are fishing in a heavy surf or possibly from a rocky ledge such as the lighthouse area of Montauk, a light can be of help in spotting your fish being tossed about in the wash.

The gas lanterns are mostly used while fishing bottom because it is necessary to watch the rod tip which is being held in a sand spike. At times I have seen them set up on the beach by plug-casters in the calm shallow waters such as Fire Island Inlet. I still haven't figured out the reason why but any use of these lanterns would be easier to take if a shield were fashioned which would cut down on the blinding light these lanterns are capable of giving off. The user can position himself behind this shield, out of the direct glare of the light and still be able to keep a watch on the rods. If the shield, which can be made from a scrap piece of aluminum siding and held in place by the same nut which holds the cover of the lantern, is curved to extend around the sides, the fisherman on the other side will be spared the blinding light.

Bottom fishing, though it does not present as many problems as encountered when plugging, can be made easier by following a few common sense rules. First of all, make sure your tackle is suited to the task. This is essential when fishing in a crowd. If you have the beach to yourself you can use anything you like without interfering with anyone else's fishing.

At times heavier weight sinkers are required in order to hold your line straight out from the beach. First of all they must be part of your equipment and secondly your tackle should be of sufficient strength to handle the heavier weight. On certain occasions the lateral sweep of the tide, combined with an abundance of weed, will foil all attempts to hold bottom. During these times frequent attention must be paid to the angle of your line in order that it does not sweep too far down the beach and tangle the lines of those fishing down tide of you.

There are times when it is permissible to cast over another person's line but that does not hold true when fishing bottom since any attempt at reeling in one's line will result in snagging any lines lying in the path of your retrieve. There are times while plugging that require you to cast over another's line in order to present your lure up-current of your position. Caution should be used to insure against fouling the lines up-tide by waiting until those casters involved have started their retrieve. By this time the lures should have started their swing towards the beach. If everyone around you is casting upstream and you cast straight ahead the swing of your lure will entangle those lines a considerable distance from your position.

In this same vein, if you are using a different type of lure or a noticeable difference in weight, the distance in your cast and the sweep of your line in relation to the others may vary greatly. This can cause fouled lines until compensated for by possibly changing the angle of your cast somewhat or waiting a bit longer until the other party's retrieve is closer to the beach. Of course if you start catching fish the others will change to your lure whereas if they score and you don't you should switch in favor of the proven article.

Before we get completely away from bottom fishing let me make a few more points.

When a large fish is hooked by an angler fishing nearby, it would be greatly appreciated by the lucky angler if you would reel in your lines so he has room in which to play his fish. If the fish makes a sudden run parallel to the beach and tangles your line before you can clear the area, give the engaged angler slack so he can play his fish. If the fouled lines cannot be freed by passing one over the other, you will have to bide your time until the fish is landed.

This also holds true when many casters are occupied in plugging, in fact tangled lines at this time are more likely. If the plug cannot be picked off the line it is fouling, the sportsmanlike thing to do is to cut your line, making sure you have the plug in your hand when you cut.

If a person fishing near you has a fish on, hold your cast until he has the fish under control or he works the fish away from your area. At no time should you make a cast over a line with a fish struggling on the other end. I know that a person tends to get anxious when fish are being caught all-around, but untangling or retying lines will take time also.

Up to now it seems that all the benefit is given to the guy catching the fish, which is as it should be, but there are certain things he should do in order to deserve these considerations.

To begin with, he should be using tackle suitable to the occasion where he can handle his fish in a reasonable amount of time. A person using 6 lb. test line among a crowd fishing a rip using 15 lb. test line has no place being there.

It is also the responsibility of an angler with a good fish on to move down-tide with the fish in an attempt to keep the fish as straight out in front as possible. If this is not done the fish will eventually have your line almost parallel to the beach causing several problems such as having to reel the fish in front of a line of casters down-tide. Also those casters removed from your immediate area can be totally unaware that there is a fish on in front of them. If they do realize the situation you can't expect a whole line of casters to hold their casts while you bring your struggling fish to your waiting gaff against the pull of the current. If for no other reason, you should walk downtide simply because it will facilitate your landing the fish.

If your objective for the day is to fish bottom don't pick a spot in the midst of a series of men plugging. Naturally if you are on the scene first the plug casters should give you sufficient room to do your thing without interference.

Another difficulty encountered when fishing a strong rip in a crowd is that the plug has a tendency to swing down-tide very swiftly and must be retrieved dangerously close to the casters on that side of you. Care must be taken not to allow your plug to swing too far before you speed up your retrieve and start the procedure over again.

Taking this problem one step further, we have the surfcaster who edges out in front of the established line thereby putting himself in a position where he is asking for a hook in the leg. If those anglers left behind are unable to follow, such as is the case when wet suits are used versus the more conventional waders and top, they might as well pack it in and move to another location. If they persist the presentation of the lure will be hindered by those to their front not to mention the consequences if they happen to tie into a good fish.

In some instances this problem can be easily solved by the first-come first-served theory. There are times, such as with the falling tide on the North Bar when the issue is not so clearly defined. Many times at the beginning of the tide you have the wet suits and waders standing side by side. As the tide recedes the wet suit clan tends to push further out trying to present their lures through the most productive part of the rip. The surfcasters dressed in waders are soon left behind trying to get a piece of the action from the area left to them. I don't believe I'd like to make a definite statement as to who is right and who is wrong but it does boil down to the fact that those employing the wet suits are utilizing their specialized equipment for the purpose intended.

Before you wader-wearers get too upset, let me ask you this. On occasion I have found myself fishing alongside casters dressed in hip boots or worse ankle length hunting boots. Would you, dressed in waders as you are, hold back from pushing out to reach the fish because some ill-equipped fisherman can not follow? Naturally if the fish are close there is no need for anyone to push out and stand in the midst of the fish.

Let me get off this subject before I get too involved and put my foot in my mouth.

When fishing areas with difficult terrain or treacherous

(Continued on next page.)

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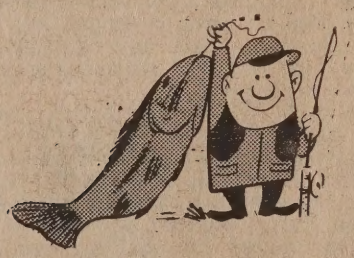


footing, it is often necessary to ask a stranger for assistance in landing a fish. Just be prepared to reciprocate if the favor is asked of you, not like one guy under the Light at Montauk who begged off after I went down for his fish.

In fishing places such as the Lighthouse area at Montauk where conditions tend to become somewhat crowded, forcing your way in between the already elbow to elbow casters can lead to a confrontation. Fishing is tough enough already without some late arrival trying to edge his way in.

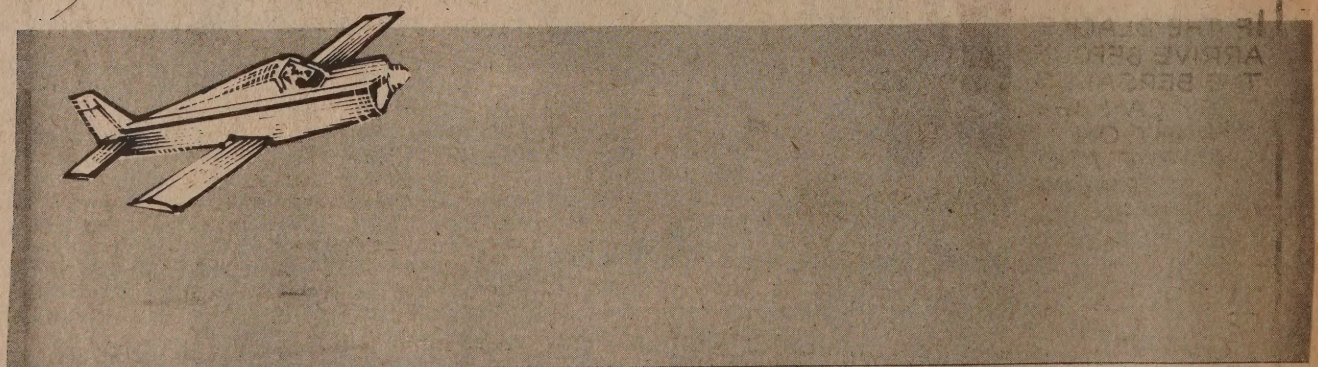
Upon entering relatively calm waters where it is necessary to wade out to join the line of earlier arrivals, walk slowly. This is to avoid undue noise and splashing where you could spook the fish thereby ruining the fishing for yourself and the others.

Every year we are in danger of losing more beachfront in which to pursue our pastime. Those of you who have buggies are in the most jeopardy, but we all have the responsibility to leave the beach as clean as we found it upon arrival. The discarding of your debris on the beachfront will not ingratiate us with the powers that be, while some trash is actually dangerous. Glass bottles and rusted or bent fish hooks obviously can cause much grief to the unsuspecting bare foot that finds your carelessly discarded trash. Another danger is caused by those fishermen who strip their reels of unwanted monofilament line and throw it in the water. Besides the unsuspecting wildlife which can become tangled in this mess, boat props can be fouled. Closer to home, it can entangle a surfman's feet causing him to trip resulting in an unwanted dunking if not worse. This plastic does not break down and rot away therefore it will stay in the environment indefinitely. If you have a buggy carry a trash bag. If you are walking, stuff the trash in your pocket until you reach the nearest garbage can.

Last October the Long Island Beach Buggy Association held a beach clean-up at Democrat Point, with about a dozen people taking time-out in order to help. Organizations such as this are trying to keep the beaches open for you. If you can't support these clubs in their fight for you at least do your part by taking your trash with you when you leave the beach.

Last fall my good buddy Vito had his plug bag stolen while he was fishing the Light at Montauk. Around this same period plugs started disappearing from rods left unattended on the buggies. Nothing I can say here will reform a thief, but I pity the soul who gets caught in the act by a gang of angry surf fishermen. Be careful the night has a thousand eyes and two of them might be watching you.

I've shot my mouth off long enough about various behavior on the beach which can make our quest for those prizes in the surf a bit more enjoyable. In this modern age the biblical phrase still holds true, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."



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BATTLING BLACKFISH

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE BLACKFISH, ALSO CALLED "TAUTOG" SHOWS UP IN SPRING ON REEFS AND ROCKS. THEY ARE CAUGHT ON FIDDLER & GREEN CRABS -ALSO CLAMS & WORMS.

USE A STURDY OR HEAVY BOAT ROD TO KEEP THE FISH FROM DIVING INTO HIS ROCKY HIDEAWAYS WHERE HE CAN FOUL OR BREAK THE LINE.

BRING A NET AND PLENTY OF BAIT, HOOKS AND SINKERS. BLACKS ARE EXPERT AT STEALING BAIT AND YOU CAN GET HUNG UP MANY TIMES.

FIDDLER CRAB HOOKED IN HOLE BY REMOVING LARGE CLAW.

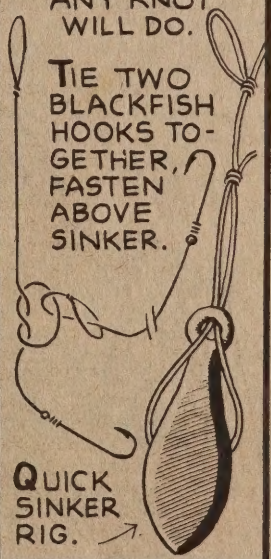
GREEN CRAB HOOKED NEAR BASE OF TAIL.

IF THE BLACKS ARRIVE BEFORE THE BERGALLS THEY CAN BE CAUGHT ON CLAM BAIT AND FLOUNDER WORMS. SHRIMP BAIT & CHUM WORKS TOO.

THIS PAGE DEDICATED TO MEMORY OF CHARLIE CROWLEY.

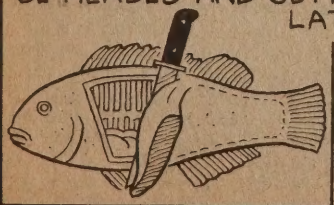
USE A NO HARDWARE RIG. IT SAVES HANGUPS AND FUMBLING AROUND FOR SWIVELS ETC. WHEN THE ACTION IS FAST. ANY KNOT WILL DO.

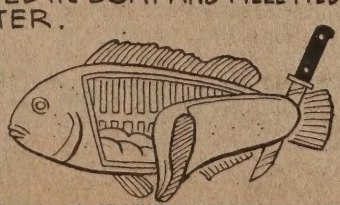
TIE TWO BLACKFISH HOOKS TOGETHER, FASTEN ABOVE SINKER.



QUICK SINKER RIG.

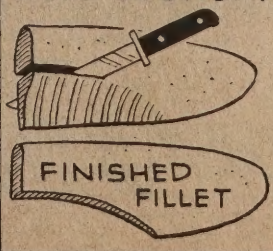
TO FILLET SLIDE KNIFE ALONG BACKBONE FROM HEAD TO TAIL AND CUT THE SIDES RIGHT OFF. TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD FISH CAN BE HEADED AND GUTTED IN BOAT AND FILLETTED LATER.





TO SKIN FILLET, PLACE IT SKIN SIDE DOWN AND HOLD TAIL END. CUT WITH SAWING MOTION, IT COMES OFF EASILY.

CUT AWAY RIB BONE SECTION.



WEAKFISHING

PART TWO — The Use of Live & Natural Baits for Big Weakfish

by Capt. Ron Onorato

Long before the arrival of such artificial lures like the plastic shrimp, the way to go weakfishing was to anchor up in an area that was producing weaks and chum with live grass shrimp. The hook used was then baited with either a whole sandworm or a couple of grass shrimp and drifted out into the current. Also productive and frequently used, were strips of squid drifted on a long-leadered hook tied a few feet above the sinker. A shorter leadered hook with a killie or spearing was tied right near the sinker in hopes of fooling a fluke or kingfish near the bottom. However, all this has changed considerably. Few are the fishermen willing to go through the trouble of getting live grass shrimp, and the frozen type are just too expensive to purchase. Using sandworms is also pretty much a thing of the past, also due to their prohibitive cost. Out in the Peconics, there are still many anglers that use the high leadered squid-baited hooks, along with a couple of small hooks on the bottom used for the big run of porgies. The new twist on the weakfishing scene, is the use of live baits such as tiny snappers and baby bunkers. These baits have been used for years by a handful of knowing anglers, but the secret leaked out and it has been widely publicized in the season past, with everyone getting on the bandwagon.

There are still a handful of fishermen on the Island who still use live grass shrimp with very good results. I tried it twice, and both times over 80 fish were caught and we left the fish biting. The big problem is getting the live grass shrimp, as they are virtually nonexistent in bait shops. The only way to get live grass shrimp is to net them yourself with a small seine net. Grass shrimp cling to piles and bulkheads in many of the bays, and with a little effort, a couple of quarts can be obtained by scraping the net along the wooden structures. The shrimp are pretty hardy animals and can be kept alive for periods of time by keeping them moist with a damp rag or cloth dipped in sea water and kept cool in a refrigerator or insulated cooler.

The shrimps are revived when placed back into warmer salt water and become active again. Shrimp chumming will work anywhere that has weakfish in the area, provided the current isn't too strong. The boat is anchored in a likely area and a light chum line is started by tossing a few shrimp over the side at a time. The current carries the shrimp away from the boat, and if there are any weaks in the area, they will home in on the shrimp like candy.

The same shrimps used for chum are used as bait. They are fairly small, so usually two or three are placed on a hook. A fine wire hook is best, rather than the heavier tinned hooks because it gives the bait a more natural drift, and doesn't crush the bait; sizes 1/0 or 2/0 are best. The shrimps, or sandworms if you care to spend the time or money to get them, are drifted back into the current in a manner similar to that of clam chumming or bluefish chumming. The bait is free spooled into the current without a weight until a hit comes. When the weaks are heavy, they will be feeding right off the stern of the boat, and many times the hit will come as soon as the hook settles below the surface. I have found that conventional gear and light, ten pound mono to be a very successful set-up for this fishing. This is extremely effective when the fish move away from the deeper channels of great South Bay and onto the flats west of Buoys 3 and 4; the fish really go wild over the shrimps in shallow water.

The other time-honored method that is still used today with very good results, is the use of the hi-lo rig. The hi-lo rig is simply a two hook rig with one long-leadered hook tied about three feet off the bottom, and another smaller leadered hook tied right above the sinker. The top hook is usually snelled on a 30-inch length of 30 pound mono, and consists of a 2/0 or 3/0 Claw type hook. By means of a three-way swivel, this is attached three feet above the sinker. The terminal end of the mono usually has a loop or a snap to which the sinker is attached. A second hook, similar to the top hook except that a 15 inch leader is used, is attached right above the sinker with another three-way swivel. The top hook is then baited with a long strip of squid or whole sandworm, and the bottom hook can be baited with either a squid strip or live killie or spearing. Weakfish would usually take the top hook, and occasionally grab the lower hook, but usually a fluke, kingfish, or blowfish would go for the bottom hook. Out in the Peconics, two tiny #2 hooks baited with clam or worm are used on the bottom when the porgies are running along with the weaks. These hi-lo rigs can be used at anchor with a chum pot, or they can be drifted when the wind and the current permit until some fish are located. When the weakfish hits a bait, they really give quite a shot, not like the soft bite they sometimes give with the soft plastic shrimps.

The biggest change to come over the weakfishing techniques in recent years is the use of live fish, either snappers or baby bunkers as bait for those outsize weakfish. The weakfish is really a savage predator, much more vigorous in pursuit of bait fish than the striped bass at times. Any manner of bait fish that can be caught by the weak will be eaten if he can swallow it. Unlike the bluefish that usually tears and cuts its bait into pieces with its sharp teeth, the weakfish has one main spike-like tooth and doesn't really chop or cut, rather it will tear a bait and usually swallow it in one piece.

It is unknown precisely where and when live bait fishing for weakfish started, but it has been around for a while. It was through several freak catches that made me aware of the potential of live baits. The first incident happened way back when the weaks were just starting their big build-up and they were scattered in many of the South Shore bays behind Jones Beach. It was late August and the bass fishing was slow, so a couple of us tried for some snappers for supper. Snappers were all over the place and they hit tiny spoons pretty well. As one of the six-inch bluefish was being lifted from the water, a big weak snatched him from the hook in a flash. Coincidence we thought, though it happened several times that summer.

The following summer, while snagging bunkers in the ocean off Rockaway, a 12-pound weak took a freshly snagged bunker right under the boat. Many of the boats trolling bunker spoons in the same area, commented, that to their surprise, 8 and 10 pound weaks were hitting the big spoons. Eventually we pieced things together and got into business with the bigger fish.

Whenever using live bait for weaks, two things are certain: you are going to get skunked a couple of times, but when you do take fish, they are big, big fish. This is very similar to bait fishing for big bass. You don't score all the time, but the fish are pretty big when you do score. Occasionally some exceptional catches are made.

The live baits we are concerned with are small snappers and baby bunkers, both of which can be obtained with varying degrees of difficulty. Fortunately, snappers are pretty abundant in the summer and are usually easy to obtain. The place to look for snappers are in the quieter creeks and channels and around docks and bulkheads, and are very receptive to a cast spoon or tiny tin lure. The best size snappers are those around six inches in length and are not injured by being hooked too seriously. The snappers are usually kept in a live bait well and are very hardy and will stay alive for considerable lengths of time as long as the water is not too bloody and they aren't overcrowded. Unless you feel like dipping a lot of buckets and

changing the water very frequently, nvest in a small electric aerator, this will keep a steady supply of oxygen flowing into the water.

Bunkers on the other hand are usually a little more difficult to locate and are not as hardy as snappers in the bait well. Of key importance here, is finding the right size bunkers to use for bait. Those 10 and 12 inch bunkers may be fine for big bass, but they won't be too good to use for weaks, unless you're looking for a 25 pound weakfish. The prime size is the bunker that is around 6 or 8 inches long. These are times when bunkers of this size are numerous, and at other times only the "logs" are abundant. Sometimes there aren't enough bunker around of any size. The bunkers move around and are not very easy to locate, especially during the middle of the summer, when live lining is at its finest.

The only way to get these small bunkers is to either snag them with a tiny 1/0 treble hook or use a cast net. Since I've never tried the cast net, the only way we have gotten bunker is the snagging method. You look around the bay until you see the telltale slap of the bunkers and then cast the weighted treble into the school and whip it rapidly. If the bunkers are thick enough, you'll end up with the bait supply for the trip. Many times they are scattered and you can get just a couple of pieces. For a full day, or night trip, 10 or so healthy bunkers are about right. Don't keep any bunkers that are hooked too deeply or have bled too much, they will expire shortly. If you don't have enough bunkers, try to beef up the bait supply with some snappers. You can keep both in the same pail, as long as you don't overcrowd it.

Fishing the live baits is similar to live lining for bass, except everything is on a smaller scale. A light action conventional reel with 20 pound mono and matching rod is the preferred outfit by many. There is no need to go any heavier than that, and spinning tackle is not as effective, as it does not allow the line control as conventional tackle does.

The live bunker or snapper can be fished in two ways; with a weight, and live lined without a weight. The latter technique is the easier method and is employed under certain conditions. While many prefer to use tiny treble hooks, the baits can be hooked with a short shank tuna hook, around size 2/0 or 3/0 and not be restricted by the heavier treble hook. The bait will last longer with the lighter, single hook than they will with the heavier treble. Regardless of the bait used, I will usually hook them ahead of the dorsal fin rather than in the lips.

The hook is then attached to a three-foot leader of 30 or 40 pound mono and attached to the terminal end of the mono via a black barrel swivel. The bunker or snapper is then attached to the hook and used without any weight. The snapper has a tendency to roam a bit more on the end of the line than does the bunker. Once taken from the pail, they become very lively and will range a wide area of water. The live bait is then free-spooled and allowed to roam with about 60 or 70 feet of line. The best areas to live line the bait is along the deeper holes that dot the flats of Great South Bay, the water depth is about 6 or 8 feet on the flats, depending on the tide stage, with it going to 12 and 14 feet in some deeper holes. It is recommended to use no weight here, as the current isn't strong, and the water is shallow. The weight will only drag the bait down, when that's not really wanted. There are numerous holes and depressions in Great South Bay that hold fish during the summer. Another likely area to try is along the edges of many of the sod and marsh banks of Jones and Tobay Beach area. The current is not that fast in many of these drains, and the water isn't that deep. As a rule, don't use a weight if the water is shallow and the tide is sluggish.

When fishing in areas where the tide is ripping, or the water is fairly deep, you'll need something to get the bait down a bit. This is where it pays to go to a small drail. The bait is rigged something like this: take a one or two ounce drail or trolling sinker and attach one end to the terminal end of the mono line you're using, now attach the leader and hook to the other end of the drail. This gets the bait down to where the fish are often feeding, right near the bottom. The weighted bait is free spooled until bottom is felt, engage the reel and take in several turns of the reel until the bait is just off the bottom. Now put the bait back into free spool and fish that way, until the hit comes. Try to keep the drail off the bottom or it will pick up some sort of debris or snag on the bottom.

Some areas that are favored for drifting with the weighted baits are around inlets and bridges where the tide is fairly strong and the water deep. There are several deep cuts in Fire Island Inlet that are favored by many live bait drifters. The Wantagh and Meadowbrook bridges that encompass much of Jones Beach and areas, are also the scene of some pretty hectic fishing at times. Up on the North Shore, where the supply of tiny bunkers is usually a little better than the South Shore, is also a good bet. Right now it's wide open up there, with few, if any, fishermen willing to do a little experimenting. The east side of Hempstead Harbor around Matinecock Point had some very good numbers of weakfish early last year, and the live bait worked very well every time I tried it up there.

You have to resign yourself to the fact that, with the exception of an occasional good score, there are going to be times when you may strike out, but usually you can count on five or six good fish for your efforts. Good fish means fish that are over eight pounds in weight, anywhere up to the high teens. You're going after quality, not quantity.

Why many people give up on this type of fishing after one or two tries, amazes me. It isn't as easy as casting the shrimp in the middle of a school of surfacing fish, but it isn't that hard. About the hardest thing is often detecting the runoff when the weak is trying to swallow the bait, and when to set the hook. Weaks have fairly large mouths, so they don't usually have too much trouble getting the bait down. When the runoff is felt, line should be fed out for as long as five or six seconds. This allows the fish enough time to swallow the bait usually.

As a rule, night fishing around the Jones Beach bridges is better than during the day. In fact, night fishing on clear, calm nights is usually better than daytime fishing right through much of the summer. Dawn and early mornings also seem to produce the best action.

Much more can be said and written about this type of fishing, but the lion's share remains with you to get out and experiment a bit. Like anything else, it will take time to learn, but once you get the knack of it, you will appreciate this fishing.

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Fly Rodding Weaks

by Don Avondolio

Fly rodding in salt water? If you haven't tried it, don't knock it. The mention of fly tackle to the average fisherman usually arouses thoughts of fresh water fishing. Well, if you have ever experienced the excitement of hooking and playing a two pound trout in fresh water, imagine catching a five pound or better weakfish in saltwater on similar tackle. A five pound weakfish is not uncommon these days when school runs are at peak showing. This is evident by the appearance of large quantities of weaks throughout the Long Island coastal area.

The weaks are caught predominently in the Great South Bay (south shore area), and Peconic Bay (eastern Long Island area.) April or May starts the run, which continues throughout most of the summer, decreasing gradually up to September. By September the run picks up and continues sometimes as late as November. Sporadic weakfish runs also occur throughout the north shore (Long Island Sound) locations where marshes, grassy areas, deep holes, and rips are prominent. Last year during May and June, many weaks were even caught in the surf at Montauk, particularly at Shagwong. Several flyrodders I know of scored well here, especially during ideal wind and tide conditions. One of the major problems encountered while salt water fly fishing is the occurrence of strong winds. Fly rods are sometimes put aside for heavy, long surf rods in order to compensate for less than ideal casting conditions. This is not to be interpreted that fly fishermen avoid windy days. Resolving this problem by using double haul casting, shooting head fly lines, and powerful graphite rods, can often save the day.

As most experienced fishermen know, weaks have a soft tissued mouth which sometimes contributes to the hook being pulled out during battle. Fly rods are whippy and advantageous for fishing this type of fish. The usual fly hook ranges from size 2 thru 1/0 which is comparatively small and also contributes to reducing the percentage of lost fish. Another factor common to fly rodding is the light reel drag used during the encounter which limits the force exerted on the fish, consequently the tendency to horse the fish during battle is eliminated.

The terminology "fly," again to the average fisherman is sometimes confusing and misunderstood. In fresh water fishing a "fly" can represent a dry (floating fly) wet (sinking fly,) or streamer, bucktail (imitation of baitfish.) In salt water "fly" represents either an imitation of baitfish or resemblance of some aquatic life that predators feed on.

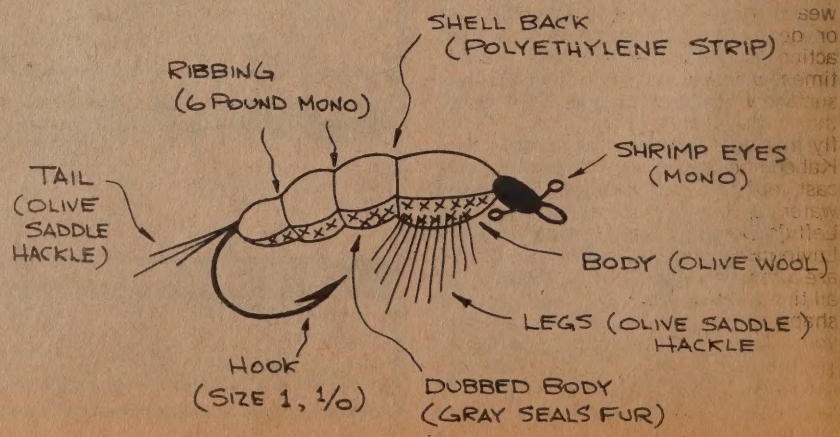
(Examples: grass shrimp, squid, crab, sand eels, sea worm, etc.) I have bought and used practically all materials used for bait imitations. Comparatively speaking, I feel that the feathered, bucktailed fly imparts the most realistic, slithery, undulating swimming motion compared to other materials. This reason alone is justification for usage as a realistic bait imitator, which usually results in more consistent catches.

Weakfish feed on grass shrimp, sand eels, killies, spearing, worms, squid and other aquatic sealife. Fly patterns representing these various fish attractors are available at any good fly tackle store. In addition, for the interested fly tyer, these patterns can be copied from any good fly pattern book describing the various steps in tying along with the proper usage of materials. Materials such as feathers and bucktails used in constructing flies are economical and once fly tying is attempted and learned, many interesting new patterned flies can be created. When weakfishing, one of the previously mentioned baits stands out in my mind among the rest—the grass shrimp.

The grass shrimp is prime bait, especially when fishing grassy, shallow, flat areas where these shrimp thrive. Live grass shrimp is both difficult and expensive to obtain from tackle shops. Therefore, the problem is resolved by using the grass shrimp fly imitation. Bob Sater's imitation suggests a grass shrimp commonly found along the coastal marshes and bays of the Atlantic coast. This fly was especially designed for weaks, but will also catch other gamefish such as striped bass and bluefish. An interesting fact is that this same fly did at one time hold the six pound test record for weakfish. This grass shrimp fly can be obtained at the Fireside Anglers Shop, P.O. Box 823, Melville, N.Y. 11746 in kit form for $5.75. This fly tying kit will produce a quantity of 24 flies. For those interested in constructing this fly using their own materials, I have included the basic pattern in sketch 1.

I personally have had great success catching weaks with this fly and highly recommend it for the drift technique used when fishing by boat over grassy flats. To further explain the technique used, I will relate an actual day's fishing occurrence last year.

One day late in May while fishing with my sons, the weather was cool and winds were blowing at roughly five or six knots as I launched my 18-foot tri-hull at Heckscher Park Ramp. This ram should serve as a model for all boat ramps. Besides being located in a protected cove with floating docks nearby for



boarding, it even has a fresh water supply near the exit path that can be used for cleaning your boat after fishing. After launching from this ramp, we started out towards buoy 4, which had been a popular hotspot at this time of year. We noticed a group of clammers working the bay bottom slightly south of buoy 4. It was then that we decided that this natural chumming action might attract a school of weakfish. Well, we guessed right. After approximately two hours, we had caught and netted 30 weaks, ranging from two to six pounds. All were released except 10, which seemed enough for a substantial meal for our family to enjoy.

The method used was simple, but interested even my fourteen-year-old son. We drifted from up wind with the current, moving towards the north as near to the clammers as possible without disturbing their activity. Prior to the drift, I played out my lead core shooting head fly line attached to the grass shrimp fly mentioned previously. The length and weight of fly line was adequate for this current, and drift speed such that my fly was almost touching bottom. During the initial drift, several blades of grass were caught on the fly hook, indicating that the fly line length was too long. I retrieved my line, cleaned the hook and returned my fly to water and corrected the length of line played out. The main idea was to present the shrimp in a natural drift with the current. This fly presentation is somewhat similar to the wet fly dead drift effect used in fresh water fishing. As the boat roamed over the fairly uniform bottom structure, I noticed my depth flasher reading 10 feet, and as the measurement decreased, I reeled in line proportionately so as to keep the fly just off the bottom. On almost each drift, weakfish hits were sudden, with runs peeling out line from my single action reel. The runs were strong and multi-directional. A couple of quick, short lifts of my fly rod tip reinforced hook penetrations. After playing the first few weaks, I couldn't help notice my son's interest in this method. He eventually put aside his rod, asked to use the fly rod, and attempted his own grass shrimp drift. Within minutes, he successfully brought to net his own fish. Needless to say, this year my son will be using his own salty fly tackle system for fighting weaks.

Although the probability of catching weakfish is greater at the water bottom or deep below the surface, top water action should not be ignored. Weaks, at times, will feed on the surface showing a surface water disturbance, especially in the shallows at dawn and dusk. Floating fly line and popping flies similar to the Kaboomboom popper will produce when cast into this disturbance. For shallow water action, streamer flies such as Lefty's Deceiver, Double Blonde series, Loying Bass fly, and Tabory's Sand Eel, are a few good producers. These flies at all times should resemble the color tone, shape and length of bait fish present in your fishing area. The squid fly is another good suggested pattern for deep water type of fishing when fished with an intermittent jerk type of retrieve. The hand-to-hand stripping method from stripping guide pulled away in a one-foot jerk, imparts a realistic squid swimming action if repeated every two or three seconds.

The grass shrimp fly can also be used in a live or swimming motion retrieve, especially near eel grass areas. Floating fly line is perfect for shallow areas of two to three feet deep, but for deeper areas, use a sinking fly line of one sink rate or another. Extra fast sinking line (Hi-D type) is great for deep (25 ft.) water, or for fast running, turbulent water common to rips. Lead core shooting head line will offer you the fastest sink rate possible, but take note that this line exerts a powerful cast. When initially using this line, beware of the sharp hook in motion, possibly inflicting bodily harm if not cast properly (away from the caster). In summation, I tend to use weight forward float fly line for surface or shallow water depths (two to three feet) if winds are not strong. For strong windy situations, use shooting head lines, either floating or sinking, depending on the depth of potential fish. For distance casting deep or turbulent water, use shooting head fly line either shooting taper or lead core, and gauge your sink rate accordingly. The Cortland Company manufactures a flat ribbon type of mono running line called "Cobra" that tends to resist curling and kinking. I use 20# test size marketed in 50 yard spools, which is more than adequate when attached to dacron backing of 100 yards

Continued on page 53.

Tackle Box Talk

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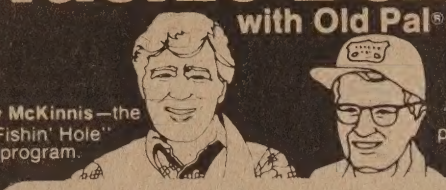

Jerry McKinnis—the "Fishin' Hole" program.

Virgil Ward—the "Championship Fishing" program.

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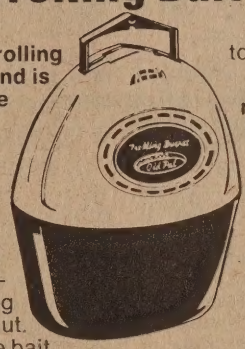

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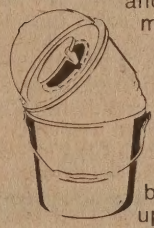

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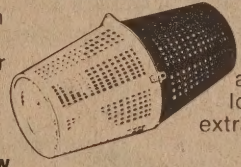

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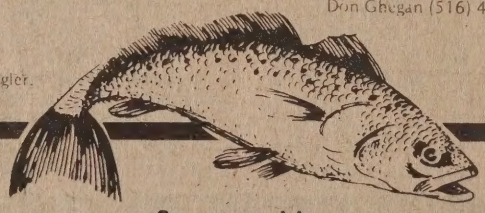

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Captain John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne**, who is known for his expertise with diamond jigs for striped bass, showed a charter on Saturday how to use them for codfish. John said that 3 men took 50 codfish and 6 pollack using only diamond jigs with a teaser tube above. Two of the cod were close to 40 pounds and many double headers were taken. John said that the cod action south of Block Island was great, and about half the catch was made in 1½ hours. Total score for the day was over 800 pounds of cod and pollack.

"Unbelievable codfishing....This is the best spring run of codfish I have ever seen at Montauk," is the word from Capt. John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide**. The fish are all sizes ranging from small 5 pounders up to 40 pounds with plenty of 20s mixed in. A few large pollack and blackfish are also sprinkled in the catch. The super cod action has been anywhere from the Southwest Ledge to the Appletree Grounds, and Sharks Ledge south of Block Island. John said there are also big flounder being taken at Shagwong and Tobaccolot Bay is loaded with big snowshoes. The mackerel are thick in the Race, but the fish are scattered around the Montauk area and aren't being taken in any quantity. John said that the haul seiners working the south side were murdering big weakfish in the 6 to 8 lb. class and larger during the week, a good sign of things to come.

Captain Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the cod action was excellent all week, but on Sunday the weather was so nice the fishing was down a little but over 100 cod were still taken. During the week the average catches were 15 to 30 cod per man. The fish are nice school sized in the 10 to 12 lb. range with a few 30 and 40 pounders thrown in. Blackfish up to 8 pounds and a few pollack to 20 pounds are mixed with the cod. All this hot action has been taking place on the south side of Block Island.

Captain Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** confirmed the great codfishing in the Block Island area and said that he has two open dates for this weekend for those that want to get in on the action.

Captain Dick "Set Line" Vigilant of the **Triton II** said that the codfishing was

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very, very good all week but slowed up a little on Sunday. The cod are all sizes with plenty of 20 pounders. Quite a few blackfish are also in the area south of Block Island, which usually isn't known for same. Dick was the first to report that big pollack schools are now in the area and a few boats that found them for a few minutes took 10 to 12 big pollack each. Dick said that the next two weeks should see some of the great pollack action of last year repeated.

Captain Frank Pike of the charter-boat **Leatherneck** said that the boat is now back in the water and he is now ready to sail. He has plenty of open dates left, including weekends, for this month for those that want to get in on the cod massacre going on in Block Island.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** spent rewarding hours fishing off Block Island in the area of Sharks Ledge. He reports that cod fishing was excellent all week, with cod in the 20 to 30 lb. class numerous. Saturday was a bonanza, almost to the point that backing into the dock, one could hardly see the people because of all the hanging cod.

Hank Neville of **Gone Fishin' Marina** tells of launch boats into cod in 75 to 85 feet of water at Cartwright. Dories have been taking large numbers of flounder in the lake and large flounders have started in outer waters, not in any great numbers yet, but building. Should be good by the weekend. The cod were brought in by doing after clams, and the flounders went for clams and mussels.

Henry "GF" Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** called to say that cod are great south of Block Island and flounder is super in Tobaccolot Bay. The "Bumble Bee" took 36 flounder one day during the week that ranged up to 2½ pounds at Promised Land. The "Marie III" had 25 cod in the Block Island area. Capt. Sklar of the "Margie Luv" took a mess of 2 lb. flounder on skimmer clams in Tobaccolot Bay on Sunday.

Captain Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** reports the cod fishing has finally busted loose for hook and line fishermen off Block Island. Jersey angler John

Gertrude Hoffman and Helen Steele of Philadelphia won the pool with a 47 and a 40 lb. cod. They also had 12 other fish taken aboard the "Marlin IV" out of Montauk.

fifty-nine of the finest kind of flounders taken by members of the "618 Club". These 1 to 3 lb. flounder were taken in the buoy 8 area. Photo courtesy of Promised Land Fishing Station.

Maslanski took the pool on Saturday with a 58 lb. cod. Most fish are between 18 and 25 pounds, up to 20 fish per man. WOW! Really super catches says Capt. Paul with a lot of pollack mixed in yet, also up to 20 pounds. The **Viking Star's** next Nantucket Wreck Trip is 9 P.M. May 22nd, returning May 23rd. See ad for details.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at **Promised Land Fishing Station** reports that flounder fishing is a tough pick but fish being taken are all big fish. On Saturday three men took 29 flounder over 3 pounds at cans 3 and 7 using mussels. First blackfish has been taken while flounder fishing and weighed in at 5 pounds.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina reports that there is great fishing for either flounder of mackerel. On Sunday Paul Panik and Paul Jr. and Bill Fales and Bill Jr. took 60 mackerel on mackerel treel at buoy 17 and 50 flounders on worms and mussel chum. Pop and Jeff of Noyac Marina fished for one hour and came in with 68 mackerel. Jeff reported seeing a weak-fish of 5 or 6 pounds taken on Sunday.

SAG HARBOR

Chris at **Bay View Fishing Station** reports that Friday and Saturday results were very good for flounder between

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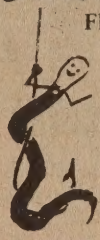
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The "FLOUNDER ALLEY" of Moriches Bay
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buoy 4 and Nichols Point on worms and mussels with a heavy hand on the chum pot. Average catch was 45 fish per boat. Sunday slowed a bit, for reasons unknown. Fish being caught are running 2 to 2½ pounds with the flood working best. Weaks and bass at the ferry on bucktails. Best spot for weakfish right now is Noyac Bay where fish are running 8 to 10 pounds on squid and artificial shrimp.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. said that the **Captain Clark Boats** had good flounder fishing until the storm on Thursday night, and then on Friday, Saturday and Sunday the fishing was real picky with catches of only 6 to 8 fish per man. But the action picked up again late Sunday afternoon, and the flounder are still good sized 1½ to 2 pounds. Best area is still Flanders Bay, Indian Island and Jamesport. The Captain said that all the local fish traps have been loading up with weakfish and it looks very good for the run to begin in the next week or so. A few fish were taken over the weekend on hook and line in Shinnecock Canal, Cows Neck, and a few at Robin's Island.

HAMPTON BAYS

Jimmy at **Corr's Fishing Station** reported that the flounder fishing in Shinnecock Bay was fair this past week. Best results were made in the afternoon on the rising tide fishing the Basket area. Action was also had at buoy 31 but the fish were smaller in size. Weakfish and fluke are also being taken in local fish traps, indicating that the flounder are leaving and the fluke and weakfish runs are about to start.

Tony's Fishing Station reports fishing is slow with average catchs of 20 to 25 flounder per boat. Fish are averaging 1 to 1¼ pounds and can be taken at buoy 17 on bloodworms and mussel chum.

Mike and George Dumont and Joe Begin with 60 flounders taken at buoys 45 and 46 in Moriches Bay. These fish up to 2 ¼ pounds were taken on bloodworms and mussel chum on the outgoing tide. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Marina.

Kevin McCormack and Harris Dreit with 50 flounder they caught in 3 hours fishing northeast of buoy 42 and east of 43. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

MORICHES BAY

Seatuck Cove Marina reports fishing good for flounder over the weekend at buoys 42, 43, and 44. The flounder are running up to 2 pounds and some eels are being taken along with them. The people who chum are the most successful. Hi-catch on Saturday was 52 flounder taken on sandworms and mussels.

Silly Lily reports that flounder fishing is slow with the average catch being 25 to 30 fish per boat up to 1¾ pounds. Your best bet is to stick with an area and chum heavily with the best area being off the mud flats to the left of buoy 42.

Skidmore's Fishing Station reports that flounder are being taken north east of buoy 42 on worms and mussel chum. The fishing is picky unless you chum heavily. Steve at Skidmore's was fishing for one hour and took 20 flounder from 1½ lbs and up on worms and mussel chum.

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stiriz's Fishing Station** reports his first weakfish of the season caught by Capt. Bill, a 7 lb. 2 oz. fish taken at buoy 12 on a shrimp lure at the first of the incoming. Flounder were slow on Saturday but extremely good on Sunday due to a drop in water temperature. Buoys 17 and 19 were best. Hi-hook for the week was Antonino Petrone with 55 flounder taken on worm and mussel baits heavy on the chum. Some eels were also taken.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports that Clay and Mary Hardman boated 25 flounder on Sunday, fishing worms on an ebbing tide off Point-O-Woods. Dania Fox and son Pete were after flounders also with Pete bagging a 3 pound fish. Mr. Toledo of N.J. had 50 weakfish up to 9 pounds using green Salty Dogs off Ocean Beach. One of his secrets is drifting and jigging two rods. Try fishing near working clam dredges. That's today's tip. Boats were having very good catches of thick flounders up to 2 pounds fishing Point-O-Woods in 10 feet of water off the third water tower with worms.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports Sunday had a very good showing of weakfish at Ocean Beach in the areas of buoy 17 and 19 with best catches falling to artificial shrimp and also to squid strips. These fish ran up to 7¾ pounds. Regular Ed Mossman had 7 weaks and pal Bill Horne had 5, on squid. Flounders and eels are also being taken in good quantities on worm and mussel baits.

OAKDALE

The Store reports lots of flounder being caught on both the north and south sides of **The Store** and at the Sore Thumb from the beach and the boats on blood and sandworms.

BAY SHORE

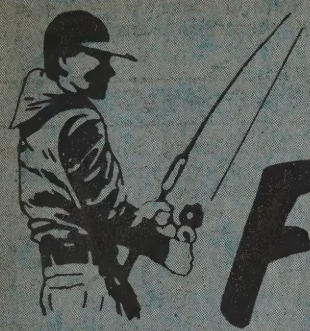
Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells us that Dot and George Scheller of Brentwood fished buoy 6 and took 27 flounder in one hour on Sunday on the flood. They fished worms. Flounder action is strong from the lighthouse to the Commissioner's house west of the bridge. A 9 lb. 4 oz. weakfish took Bayshore angler Danelle Hogans green Salty Dog tipped with pork rind at Ocean Beach. A 9 pounder was hung by 8 year old Carl Kenyon Jr. on a Salty Dog at Ocean Beach also. Fish were all over the top on Sunday evening. Mackerel are still on the outside.

CAPTREE

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** said that the flounder fishing is still steady with catches of 8 to 15 fish per man. The action on Friday and Saturday was very good around the Sore Thumb but was only fair there on Saturday. On Sunday no fish were caught at the Sore Thumb and the best area was Point-O-Woods and West Island for fish of mixed sizes. Gordon said that he saw two weakfish caught around buoy 13 off Ocean Beach on Sunday by a private boat and said that he will probably start sailing open for weakfish on May 12th and 13th for the weakfish tournament. The Captain said he will try for fluke during the week and if he scores will sail open for them on the weekend. He noted that the good fluke fishing usually starts around the 2nd week in May.

Captain Bob Joseph of the **Captain Joseph Fleet** reported that the mackerel fishing has been slow with small pockets of fish scattered around. The flounder fishing has been fairly good off Ocean Beach, and the first few weakfish taken on hook and line were also taken there.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the charter-boat **Lady Ann** reported that the flounder fishing has been consistent for the last 2 weeks with at least 120 flounder taken per trip. Saturday's trip was the best of the year with 303 flounder taken. Best



The Long Island FISHERMAN

★ FIRST ANNUAL ★

FISHING CONTEST!

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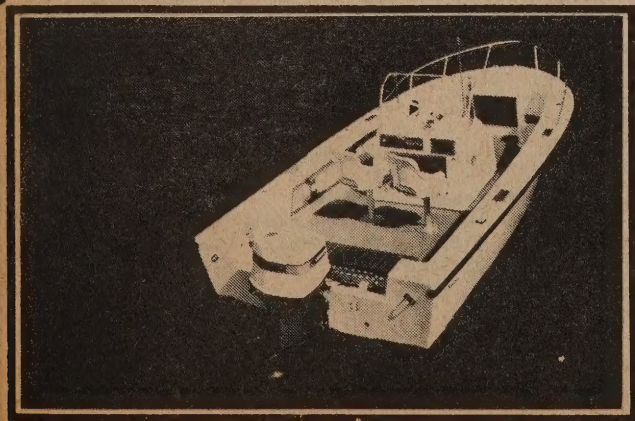
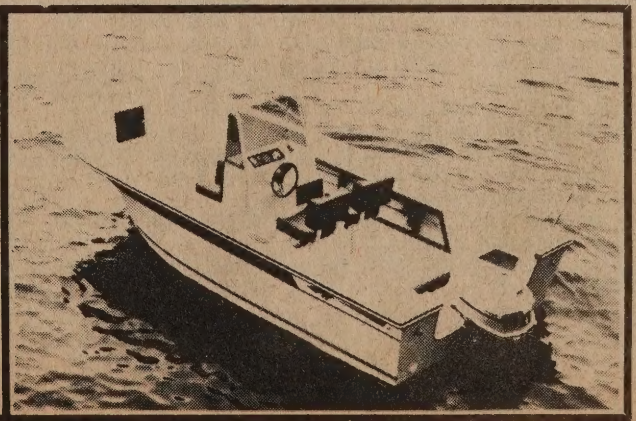
☆ GRAND PRIZE ☆

Winners Choice of

MAKO 20 *or* GW GRADY WHITE!





The Long Island Fisherman & Starfish Marine

FIRST ANNUAL FISHING CONTEST

Contest Rules & Regulations

The following rules and regulations will be in effect for **The Long Island Fisherman & Starfish Marine First Annual Fishing Contest.** Any changes, additions or modifications to the Contest Rules & Regulations will be published in L.I.F., effective on the issue date of the publication.

1. DATES—The Contest will begin at midnight on May 1st, 1977 and end at midnight on October 31st, 1977. Fish must be hooked, landed and officially weighed in during this time frame to be eligible.

2. CONFIRMATION—The fish must be confirmed as a new World Record Catch by the International Game Fish Association (I.G.F.A.) no later than midnight on January 31st, 1978.

3. ENTRY FEE—There is no entry fee required to participate in the Contest. The only qualification is that you MUST have been a subscriber of The Long Island Fisherman for at least 30 DAYS before the date that the fish is caught. Immediate members of a subscriber's family are also eligible if they are living together in the same household. Example: Mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, son, wife, husband.

4. ELIGIBLE SPECIES—The Contest has ten (10) eligible species: five inshore and five offshore. They are:

INSHORE
FLUKE* ***(Paralichthys spp.)***
WEAKFISH ***(Cynoscion regalis)***
STRIPED BASS ***(Morone saxatilis)***
BLUEFISH ***(Pomatomus saltatrix)***
BLACKFISH* ***(Tautoga onitis)***

OFFSHORE
BLUE SHARK ***(Prionace glauca)***
MAKO SHARK ***(Isurus oxyrinchus)***
WHITE SHARK ***(Carcharodon carcharias)***
WHITE MARLIN ***(Tetrapturus albidus)***
SWORDFISH ***(Xiphias gladius)***

5. RULES—The winner of the Contest will be determined by fish caught by subscribers of The Long Island Fisherman that are recognized as new World Records by the I.G.F.A. The following rules apply:
—a. Fish must be one of the ten eligible species.
—b. Catch must be made between midnight May 1st, 1977 and midnight October 31st, 1977.
—c. Fish must be taken in Long Island waters, which for the purpose of the Contest will be defined as: any area that a boat leaving a Long Island port can arrive at and return from without stopping at a non-Long Island port or refueling at sea. If there is a question as to the intent of this rule, the decision of the judges will be final.
—d. All catches must be made under the rules and regulations of the I.G.F.A. governing World Record Catches. A copy of these rules and regulations will be published in the May 5th, 1977 issue of The Long Island Fisherman, and will be available after that date to any angler sending a request with a self-addressed stamped envelope to The Fisherman.
—e. The catch must be CONFIRMED as a new World Record Marine Fish by the I.G.F.A. by midnight January 31st, 1978.
—f. New records can be for both men or women for any of the I.G.F.A. line classes: 6-lb., 12-lb., 20-lb., 30-lb., 50-lb., 80-lb., 130-lb., or All-Tackle.

6. WEIGH STATIONS—Any of The Long Island Fisherman's "Official Weigh-In Stations" may be used to make a PRELIMINARY weigh-in of a possible World Record fish. If it still appears that the fish is a possible record, it must then be OFFICIALLY weighed-in at STARFISH MARINE in East Islip. After this Official Weigh-In, Starfish Marine will provide the angler with the necessary record application for an I.G.F.A. World Record claim. To be eligible to win The Long Island Fisherman & Starfish Marine Fishing Contest, the "Witness to Weighing" portion of the I.G.F.A. World Record Application MUST be signed by one of the Contest's six designated judges.

7. It is the angler's responsibility to transport their catch to and from the premises of Starfish Marine during its regular business hours.

8. By voluntarily weighing in a fish at Starfish Marine for the Contest, the angler grants Starfish Marine and/or The Long Island Fisherman publishing and promotional rights to using his/her name and photograph in matters relating to the Contest.

9. CURRENT RECORDS—For the convenience of eligible anglers, the current recognized World Record Marine Fishes of the I.G.F.A. will be published in the May 5th, 1977 issue of The Long Island Fisherman. Periodic updates of pending new I.G.F.A. records set while the Contest is in progress will also be published in The Long Island Fisherman as they become available.

10. TIES—In the event that more than one subscriber sets a new I.G.F.A. World Record, the grand prize winner of the boat will be decided by the following criteria:
—a. The angler setting the highest number of I.G.F.A. World Records during the Contest will be the winner.
—b. In the event that no angler sets more than one record, but two or more anglers set single records, the following point system will be utilized to place the winners:

1. One point will be scored for each percentage point that the new record surpassed the previously held record, based on weight. EXAMPLE: If the new record is 25-pounds and the previous record was 20-pounds, the new record is 25% more weight. Score: 25 points.
2. One point will also be scored for every year thereof that the prior record existed. EXAMPLE: If the old record was set in May of 1967 and the new record is set in 1977, score: 10 points.
3. If the record is a new All-Tackle Record, 10 bonus points will be given.
4. The hightest total added points of 1, 2, and 3 above will determine which of the records is the Grand Prize Winner.

—c. If there are no new I.G.F.A. World Records set during the Contest, then any fish that has been recognized as a "TIE" with an existing record by the I.G.F.A. will be deemed the winner.
—d. If there are no new or tied I.G.F.A. records during the Contest, the Grand Prize will be awarded to the angler that the judges decide made the Outstanding Catch during the Contest.

11. PRIZES—The Grand Prize of The Long Island Fisherman and Starfish Marine Fishing Contest is the winners choice of either a 1978 Grady White 204 Center Console or a Mako 20. (Does NOT include engine, make-ready or applicable sales tax.) If more than one new or tied I.G.F.A. World Record is set during the Contest, there will be a consolation prize of $500 for the second highest point fish, $250 for the third highest point fish and $50 for each additional point fish.

12. JUDGES—The decision of the judges will be final. There are six judges for the Contest. They are:
RICH REINA—Publisher, L.I. Fisherman
SCOTT SIMONS—Managing Editor, L.I. Fisherman
DR. WILLIAM A. MULLER—Assoc. Editor, L.I. Fisherman
BOB ATTONITO—Starfish Marine
WALTER LEHMAN—Starfish Marine
FRANK SORRENTINO—Starfish Marine

13. Employees of Starfish Marine or The Long Island Fisherman and their immediate family members are prohibited from participating in the Contest. Anglers that have had an article published in The Long Island Fisherman within the past three years are also ineligible.

IGFA WORLD RECORD APPLICATION

FORM FOR RECORDING RECORD MARINE GAME FISH CATCHES.
READ ALL IGFA ANGLING RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING AND SIGNING THIS APPLICATION.

The angler's signature on the completed form must be witnessed by a notary. Application must be accompanied by clear photographs showing full length of fish, tackle, and scales used to weigh the fish. In the case of sharks, photograph must show teeth and open jaws.

SPECIES: (common name) (scientific name)			
Weight	**Length: X to X** (see diagram)	**Length: XX to XX** (see diagram)	**Girth** (see diagram)
(lbs. oz.)	(inches)	(inches)	(inches)
(kilos)	(centimeters)	(centimeters)	(centimeters)

DATE CAUGHT: _____ TIME REQUIRED: _____

PLACE CAUGHT: _____

ANGLER: _____
(Print name as you wish it to appear on Record Certificate)

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

_____ Country _____

If a member of a fishing club, give club's name _____

TACKLE

EVERY ITEM IN THIS SECTION MUST BE FILLED IN BY THE ANGLER. ACTUAL LINE USED MUST ACCOMPANY THIS CLAIM. (See rules for length of line sample to be submitted)

ROD

Make: _____

Tip length: _____
(center of reel to tip)

Butt length: _____
(center of reel to lower end of butt)

REEL

Make: _____ Size: _____

LINE

Make: _____ Size: _____

Length of Double Line: _____

Length of Trace or Leader: _____

Type of Gaff: _____ Length _____

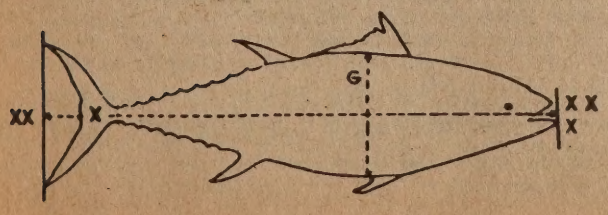
Number of Hooks: _____

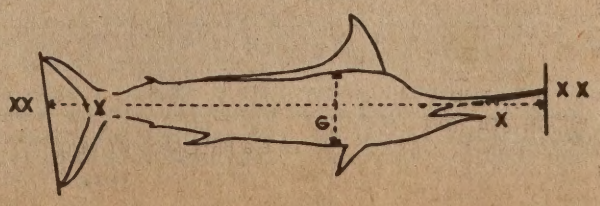
Type of Lure or Bait: _____

Method of Catch (trolling, casting, etc.): _____

SPECIES MEASUREMENTS

Measure as indicated below, taking lengths from X to X and from XX to XX. Take girth around the fish on line marked G or at largest dimension location.





BOAT _____
(name)

Name of Captain/Guide: _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Name of Mate: _____ Signature: _____

Address _____

SCALES

Location _____ Type _____

Manufacturer _____ Date last certified _____

Person and/or Agency that certified scales _____

Name of Weighmaster: _____ Signature: _____

Address _____

WITNESSES

Witness to Weighing (other than angler/Captain/weighmaster): _____

Address _____

(Witnesses continued)

Witnesses to Catch (other than Captain). List two names and addresses if possible: _____

_____

_____

_____ Number of persons witnessing catch _____

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned, hereby take oath and attest that the fish described in this application was hooked, fought, and brought to gaff by me without assistance from anyone, except as specifically provided in the regulations; and that it was caught in accordance with IGFA angling rules; and that the line submitted with this application is the actual line used to catch the fish. I further declare that all the information in this application is true and correct.

SIGNATURE OF ANGLER _____

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 19____ .

Notary Signature _____

SEAL

When completely filled out and signed, mail this application with photos and line sample by quickest means to: INTERNATIONAL GAME FISH ASSOCIATION, 3000 EAST LAS OLAS BOULEVARD, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33316 U.S.A.

(This application may be reproduced)

International Game Fish Association

WORLD GAME FISH RECORDS

WORLD RECORD CATEGORIES

NOTE: In cases where the rules for the L.I.F./Starfish Marine Contest vary from the IGFA Rules, those discrepancies will be noted by copy set in bold face type.

IGFA maintains World Records for 58 species of marine game fish. Any of these fish caught in accordance with IGFA angling rules is eligible for a World Record if it outweighs the existing record in its line class by the required amount or meets the minimum weight requirement for vacant records. **There are ten eligible species in The Long Island Fisherman & Starfish Marine First Annual Fishing Contest. They are:**

FLUKE* (*Paralichthys spp.*)
WEAKFISH (*Cynoscion regalis*)
STRIPED BASS (*Morone saxatilis*)
BLUEFISH (*Pomatomus saltatrix*)
BLACKFISH* (*Tautoga onitis*)
BLUE SHARK (*Prionace glauca*)
MAKO SHARK (*Isurus oxyrinchus*)
WHITE SHARK (*Carcharodon carcharias*)
WHITE MARLIN (*Tetrapturus albidus*)
SWORDFISH (*Xiphias gladius*)

***The IGFA 1977 World Record Marine Fishes book identifies what Long Islanders refer to as Fluke "Flounder," and what is known locally as a Blackfish is identified as "Tautog."**

LINE CLASSES

IGFA World Records are maintained according to the wet testing strength of the line used by the angler. Records are kept for both men and women in the following line classes:

6 lb. • 12 lb.• 20 lb.• 30 lb. • 50 lb. • 80 lb. • 130 lb. • All-Tackle

All-Tackle records are kept for the heaviest fish of each species caught by any angler in any of the line classes listed above. Fish caught on lines designed to test over 130 pounds will not be considered.

LINE TESTING

Beginning on January 1, 1977, IGFA will test all line samples submitted with world record claims in accordance with the metric line class designations, which vary slightly from the standard U.S. customary designations. All lines submitted with record claims are tested in a nationally recognized laboratory in accordance with U.S. Government Spec. CCC-T-191b, Method 4102, with additional testing procedures specified by the IGFA. Note: IGFA only tests lines submitted for World Record claims.

RULES GOVERNING RECORD CATCHES

All claims for IGFA World Records must be approved by at least two Officers or members of the Board of Trustees before being acknowledged as a World Record. Protested applications or disputed existing records will be referred to the entire Executive Committee for review. Their decisions will be final. IGFA reserves the sole right to either grant or reject any record applications. All IGFA decisions will be based upon the intent of the regulations.

WEIGHTS NEEDED TO DEFEAT OR TIE EXISTING RECORDS

To replace a record for a fish weighing less than 100 pounds, the replacement must weigh at least 8 ounces more than the existing record. A catch exceeding the existing record by less than half a pound will be considered a tie.

To replace a record for a fish weighing 100 pounds or more, the replacement must weigh at least 16 ounces more than the existing record. A catch exceeding the existing record by less than one-pound will be considered a tie.

In case of a tie claim involving more than two catches, weight must be compared with the original record (first fish to be caught). Nothing weighing less than the original record will be considered. **In the L.I.F./Starfish Marine Contest, a "tie" for an IGFA World Record for one of the contest's eligible species will only win if no IGFA records have been broken.**

TIME LIMIT ON CLAIMS

Claims for record fish caught in U.S. continental waters must be received by IGFA within 60 days of the date of catch. If an incomplete record claim is submitted, it must be accompanied by an explanation of why certain portions are incomplete. Final decisions on incomplete claims will be made by IGFA's Executive Committee. **For the L.I.F./Starfish Marine Contest, record fish must be taken in Long Island waters. The decision of the judges on what the boundaries of Long Island's waters are is final.**

WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS

The fish must be weighed in by an official weighmaster, if one is available, or by an IGFA official, or by a recognized local person familiar with the scale. Disinterested witnesses to the weight should be used whenever possible. At the time of the weighing, the actual tackle used must be exhibited to the weighmaster and weight witness.

No estimated weights will be accepted. Fish weighed only at sea will not be accepted. All record fish should be weighed on scales that have been checked and certified for accuracy by government agencies or other qualified and accredited organizations. All scales should be checked and certified at least once every six months. **To be eligible to win the L.I.F./Starfish Marine Contest, ALL fish MUST be officially weighed in on the certified scales at Starfish Marine.**

PREPARATION OF RECORD CLAIMS

To apply for a world record, the angler must submit a completed IGFA application form, the mandatory length of line used to catch the fish, and acceptable photographs of the fish, tackle and scale used to weigh the fish. **IGFA record application blanks will be provided by Starfish Marine at the official weigh-in, and will also take the required photographs.**

APPLICATION FORM

The official IGFA application form must be used for record claims. This form may be reproduced as long as all items are included. The angler must fill in the application personally, and mail the application with line sample and photographs to IGFA.

When making a record claim, the angler must indicate the specified strength of the line used to catch the fish. This will place the claim in an IGFA line class category (see World Record Categories). If the line overtests, the application will be considered in the next highest line class category. If the line undertests into a lower line class category, the application will not be considered for the lower line class. The heaviest line strength permissible is 130 pounds. If the line overtests 130 lbs., the claim will be disallowed.

Extreme care should be exercised in measuring the fish as the measurements are often important for other scientific studies. See the measurement diagram on the record application to be sure you have measured correctly.

The angler is responsible for seeing that the necessary signatures of boat captain, weighmaster and witnesses are on the application. If an IGFA officer or representative, or an officer of a member IGFA club is available, he or she should be asked to witness the claim. The name of a boatman, guide or weighmaster repeated as witness is not acceptable. **For the L.I.F./Starfish Marine Contest, the "Witness to Weighing" on the application must be one of Contest Judges.**

The angler must appear in person to have his application notarized. Any deliberate falsification of an application will disqualify the applicant for any future IGFA World Record.

LINE SAMPLE

All applications for records in line classes less than 50 lbs. must be accompanied by 50 feet, including the entire double of the actual line used in making the catch.

All applications for records in line classes of 50 lb. or more must be accompanied by 80 feet, including the entire double, of the actual line used in making the catch.

Backing: A catch made using two lines of different strengths that are spliced, tied or joined together, shall be classified under the heavier of the two lines. Samples of both lines must be submitted. Backing not connected to the fishing line is acceptable. No sample of such backing need to be submitted.

Each line sample must be in one piece. It must be submitted in a manner that it can be easily unwound without damage to the line. A recommended method is to take a rectangular piece of stiff cardboard and cut notches in two opposite ends. Secure one end of the line to the cardboard and wind the line around the cardboard through the notched areas. Secure the other end and write your name and the specified strength of the line on the cardboard. Do not submit the line in a hank.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograhps showing the full length of the fish, the rod and reel used to make the catch and the scale used to weigh the fish must accompany each record application. A photograph of the angler with the fish is also desirable.

So there can be no question of species identification, the clearest possible photos should be submitted. This is especially important in the cases of marlin, bass, shark and tuna species. Shark applications should also include a photograph of the shark's head and the front teeth.

Photographs should be taken of the fish in a hanging position and also lying on a flat surface on its side. In both types of photographs no part of the fish should be obscured. When hanging, the fis should be broadside to the camera with all fins, tip of the jaws, and sword or spear clearly shown. Do not hold the tip of any fin. Do not stand in front of the fish. Do not hold the fish in your hands.

When photographing a fish lying on its side, the surface beneath the fish should be smooth and a ruler or marked tape placed beside the fish if possible. Photographs from various angles are most helpful. An additional photograph of the fish on the scale with the actual weight visible helps to expedite the application. **A camera will be on hand at Starfish Marine to take the IGFA required photographs, as well as those for publication in The Long Island Fisherman.**

INTERNATIONAL ANGLING RULES

The following angling rules have been formulated so that in their observance every fish should have a sporting chance. Captures in which the fish has not fought or has not had a chance to fight, except on the leader, gaff, gaff rope or in the boat, do not reflect credit on the fish or the fisherman. Only fish caught in accordance with the following angling rules, and within the intent of these rules, will be considered for world records.

EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

Line:

1. Monofilament and multifilament lines may be used. For line classes, see "World Record Categories."
2. Metal lines, including metal core lines, are prohibited.

Double Line:

The use of a double line is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications:

1. A double line must consist of the actual line used to catch the fish.
2. The double line on all weights of tackle up to and including the 50 lb. line class shall be limited to 15 feet. For heavier tackle, the line should not be doubled for more than 30 feet. Double lines are measured from the start of the knot, braid, roll or splice making the double, to the furthermost end of the snap or other device used for securing the trace, leader, lure or hook to the double line.
3. The double line must not be lengthened beyond limitations to compensate for a leader shorter than the maximum length allowed.
4. The double line must be connected to the leader with a knot, splice, snap, swivel or other mechanical device.

Leader:

The use of a leader is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications:

1. The leader on all weights of tackle up to and including the 50 lb. line class shall be limited to 15 feet. For heavier tackle the leader shall not exceed 30 feet. There are no minimum lengths. The length of the leader is the overall length including any lure, hook arrangement or other device.
2. The leader may not be lengthened to compensate for a double line shorter than the maximum length allowed.
3. The leader must be connected to the line with a knot, splice, snap, swivel or other mechanical device.
4. There are no regulations regarding the material or strength of the leader.

Rods:

1. Rods must comply with sporting ethics and customs. Considerable latitude is allowed in the choice of a rod, but rods giving the angler an unfair advantage will be disqualified. This rule is intended to eliminate the use of unconventional rods.
2. The rod tip must be a minimum of 50 inches in length. The rod butt cannot exceed 27 inches in length. These measurements must be made from a point directly beneath the center of the reel. A curved butt is measured in a straight line. (The above measurements do not apply to surf casting rods.)

Reels:

1. Reels must comply with sporting ethics and customs.
2. Power-driven reels of any kind are prohibited. This includes motor, hydraulic or electrically driven reels, or any device which gives the angler an unfair advantage.
3. Ratchet handle reels are prohibited.
4. Reels designed to be cranked with both hands at the same time are prohibited.

Hooks for Bait Fishing:

1. For bait fishing no more than two single hooks may be attached to the leader or trace. Two may be used only if they are attached separately and are firmly imbedded in or securely attached to the bait. The eyes of the hooks must be at least an overall hooks length apart and no more than 18 inches apart.
2. The use of a dangling or swinging hook is prohibited.
3. The so-called "Bottom Rig" for fishing is acceptable only if it consists of a maximum of two single hooks on separate leaders. Both hooks must be imbedded in the respective baits and separated sufficiently so that a fish caught on one hook cannot be foul hooked by the other.
4. All record applications made for fish on two-hook tackle must be accompanied by a photograph or sketch of the hook arrangement.

Hooks and Lures:

1. When using a "teaser type" artificial lure with a skirt or trailering material, no more than two single hooks may be attached to the leader or trace. The hooks must be attached separately. The eyes of the hooks must be an overall hooks length apart and no further than 12 inches apart. The trailering hook may not extend more than a hooks length beyond the skirt of the lure. A photograph showing the hook arrangement must accompany a record application.
2. Gang hooks are permitted for use with plugs or other artificial lures. This use shall be limited to a maximum of two hooks (either single, double, treble or a combination of any two.) Double or treble hooks must be permanently attached to the lure and must be free swinging. The use of plugs and artificial lures with gang hooks is limited to casting and retrieving in a conventional manner. When casting from a boat the forward or aft motion of the boat must not affect the motion of the plug or artificial lure while the plug or lure is being retrieved. A plug or artificial lure with a maximum of two single hooks may be trolled. However, trolling with one or more gang hooks is prohibited. A photograph of the plug or lure must be submitted with record applications, and if it is not satisfactory, the plug itself may be requested.

Other Equipment:

1. Fighting chairs may not have any mechanically-propelled devices which aid the angler in fighting a fish.
2. Gimbals must be free-swinging, which includes gimbals which swing in a vertical plane only. Any gimbal which allows the angler to reduce strain or to

rest while fighting the fish is prohibited.
3. Gaffs used to boat the fish must not exceed 8 feet in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge or pier this length limitation does not apply.) In the case of a flying or detachable gaff, the rope may not exceed 30 feet. The gaff rope must be measured from the point where it is secured to the detachable head to the other end. Only the effective length will be considered. If a fixed head gaff is used, the same limitations shall apply and the gaff rope shall be measured from the same location on the gaff hook. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited.
4. Landing nets used to boat the fish must not exceed 8 feet in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge or pier this length limitation does not apply.)
5. Floats are prohibited with the exception of any small flotation device attached to the line or leader for the sole purpose of regulating the depth of the bait. The flotation device must not in any way hamper the fighting ability of the fish.
6. Entangling devices, either with or without a hook, are prohibited and may not be used for any purpose including baiting, hooking, fighting or landing the fish.
7. Outriggers, downriggers, and kites are permitted to be used provided that the actual fishing line is attached to the snap or other release device, either directly or with some other material. The leader or double line may not be connected to the snap either directly or with the use of a connecting device.

ANGLING REGULATIONS

1. In order to qualify for a world record, the angler must hook, fight and bring the fish to gaff without the aid of any other person, except as provided in these regulations.
2. If a rod holder is used and a fish strikes the bait or lure, the angler must remove the rod from the holder as quickly as possible. The intent of this rule is that the angler shall strike and hook the fish.
3. In the event of a multiple strike, only the first fish fought by the angler will be considered for a record.
4. A harness may be attached to the reel or rod, but not to the fighting chair. The harness may be replaced or adjusted by a person other than the angler.
5. Use of a rod belt or waist gimbal is permitted.
6. Once the leader is brought within the grasp of the mate, or the end of the leader is wound to the rod tip, more than one person is permitted to hold the leader.
7. One or more gaffers may be used in addition to persons holding the leader.

The following acts will disqualify a catch:

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel or line (including the double line) either bodily or with any device during the playing of the fish, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If an obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle (whether chum, floatline, rubber band or other material) shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances must the line be held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
3. Resting the rod in a rod holder, on the gunwale of the boat, or on any other object while playing the fish.
4. Handlining or using a handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Shooting, harpooning or lancing the fish being played (including sharks) during any stage of the catch.
6. Chumming with or using as bait the flesh, blood, skin or any part of marine mammals. (Chumming with whole or parts or fish is permitted providing the chum is allowed to float or swim without restraint.)
7. Beaching or driving into shallow water any fish hooked from a boat in order to deprive the fish or its normal ability to swim.
8. Changing the rod or reel while the fish is being played.
9. Splicing, removing or adding to the line while the fish is being played.

The following situations will disqualify a catch:

1. A rod that breaks in a manner that reduces the length of the tip below minimum dimensions or that severly impairs the angling characteristics of the rod.
2. Mutilations to the fish caused by sharks, other fish or propellers that remove or penetrate the fish. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries.) Any mutilation on the fish must be fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.
3. A fish that is hooked on more than one line.

FLUKE* (*Paralichthys spp.*)

	U.S. CUSTOMARY			METRIC					
LINE CLASS	Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	18-3	33	31½	8.24	83.82	80.01	Fire Island, Bayshore New York, USA	Dec. 11 1974	Dr. Einar F. Greil
W-6 lb.	8-8	26½	23	3.85	67.31	58.42	Montauk Point L.I., New York, USA	Sept. 25 1976	Ronnie DeLuca
M-12 lb.	20	33	33	9.07	83.82	83.82	Topsail Island N. Carolina, USA	Oct. 26 1972	Chris A. Bowen
W-12 lb.	12-2	31¼	25¼	5.49	79.37	64.13	Avalon New Jersey, USA	Sept. 8 1957	Mrs. Alfred Bernstein
All-Tackle W-20 lb.	30-12	38½	30½	13.94	97.79	77.47	Viña del Mar Chile, SA	Nov. 1 1971	Agusto Nunez Moreno
W-20 lb.	16-15½	34½	28½	7.69	87.63	72.39	Captree New York, USA	July 4 1971	Florence Eidman
M-30 lb.	22-1	37	35	10.00	93.98	88.90	Caleta Horcon Chile, SA	Dec. 8 1965	F. I. Aguirrezabal
W-30 lb.	13-11	33	27½	6.20	83.82	69.85	Long Branch New Jersey, USA	Aug. 20 1953	Mrs. Leslie H. Taylor
M-50 lb.	22-7	35	34*	10.17	88.90	86.36	Montauk, L.I. New York, USA	Sept. 15 1975	Charles Napoli
W-50 lb.	20-7	37	29½	9.27	93.98	74.93	Long Island New York, USA	July 8 1957	Mrs. M. Fredriksen
M-80 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 23 lbs. (10.41 kilos)								
W-80 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 23 lbs. (10.41 kilos)								
M-130 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 23 lbs. (10.41 kilos)								
W-130 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 23 lbs. (10.41 kilos)								

WEAKFISH (*Cynoscion regalis*)

	U.S. CUSTOMARY			METRIC					
LINE CLASS	Weight lbs., oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	17-8						Ft. Inlet New York	Aug. 25 1976	Joe Giallanzo
W-6 lb.	8-5	29-3/8	15¾	3.77	74.61	40.00	Fire Island New York, USA	May 13 1973	Mrs. Veronica Grebs
*M-12 lb.	14-5	34¼	26½	6.49	86.99	67.31	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 10 1976	William T. Kemp
W-12 lb.	12	35½	17¼	5.44	90.17	43.81	Fire Island Inlet New York, USA	July 24 1976	Patricia Beck
*M-20 lb.	15-15	34¾	20½	7.22	88.26	52.07	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 9 1976	William C. Reid
*W-20 lb.	12-1	30¾	18	5.47	76.83	45.72	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 17 1975	Dorothy G. Arey
M-30 lb.	10-10	36	–	4.81	91.44	–	Fire Island Light New York, USA	Sept. 20 1951	J.E. Bailey
W-30 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 8 lbs. (3.62 kilos)								
M-50 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 9 lbs. (4.07 kilos)								
W-50 lb.	11-12	31¾	18	5.32	80.64	45.72	Morehead City N. Carolina, USA	Oct. 29 1950	Mrs. L. A. Denning
All-Tackle M-80 lb.	19-8	37	23¾	8.84	93.98	60.32	Trinidad West Indies	Apr. 13 1962	Dennis B. Hall
W-80 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 15 lbs. (6.79 kilos)								
M-130 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 15 lbs. (6.79 kilos)								
W-130 lb.	Vacant – Minimum Acceptance Weight – 15 lbs. (6.79 kilos)								
*TIE M-12 lb.	14-12	34	20½	6.69	86.36	52.07	Great Peconic Bay New York, USA	May 15 1976	John A. Bogdan
*TIE M-20 lb.	16	36½	19	7.25	92.71	48.26	Ocean City Maryland, USA	Sept. 11 1976	Donald M. Cannon
*TIE W-20 lb.	12-1	32¾	20	5.47	82.55	50.80	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 9 1976	Judith Paschall

STRIPED BASS (*Morone saxatilis*)

LINE CLASS	U. S. CUSTOMARY Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	METRIC Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	38	48¼	28	17.23	123.19	71.12	Atlantic City New Jersey, USA	Nov. 5 1973	Charles P. Bliss
W-6 lb.	32	45½	23¼	14.51	115.57	59.05	Cape Cod Bay Massachusetts, USA	July 3 1975	Mae B. Foster
M-12 lb.	61 - 10	53	30	27.95	134.62	76.20	Block Island Rhode Island, USA	July 5 1956	L. A. Garceau
W-12 lb.	47	49½	—	21.31	125.73	—	Umpqua R. Oregon, USA	Aug. 21 1958	Mrs. Margaret Hulen
*M-20 lb.	67	55	29½	30.39	139.70	74.93	Block Island Rhode Island, USA	May 31 1963	Jack Ryan
W-20 lb.	57 - 8	50	30	26.08	127.00	76.20	Block Island Sound New York, USA	Aug. 28 1959	Mary R. Aubry
M-30 lb.	63-8	52½	29	28.80	133.35	73.66	Jones Beach Inlet New York, USA	Aug. 17 1973	William E. King, Jr.
W-30 lb.	64 - 8	54	30	29.25	137.16	76.20	North Truro Massachusetts, USA	Aug. 14 1960	Rosa O. Webb
All-Tackle M-50 lb.	72	54½	31	32.65	138.43	78.74	Cuttyhunk Massachusetts, USA	Oct. 10 1969	Edward J. Kirker
W-50 lb.	64	50	31	29.03	127.00	78.74	Sea Bright New Jersey, USA	June 27 1971	Mrs. Asie Espenak
M-80 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 54 lbs. (24.46 kilos)								
W-80 lb.	56	53½	33½	25.40	135.89	85.09	Sandy Hook New Jersey, USA	June 7 1955	Mrs. H. J. Sarnoski
M-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 54 lbs. (24.46 kilos)								
W-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 54 lbs. (24.46 kilos)								
*TIE M-20 lb.	67	54-1/8	32½	30.39	137.47	82.55	Greenhill Rhode Island, USA	Oct. 3 1965	Wilfred Fontaine

BLUEFISH (*Pomatomus saltatrix*)

LINE CLASS	U. S. CUSTOMARY Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	METRIC Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	18-11	40	20	8.47	101.60	50.80	Atlantic Beach North Carolina, USA	Nov. 19 1972	Daniel W. Able
W-6 lb.	14-15	36	19	6.77	91.44	48.26	Nantucket Massachusetts, USA	Sept. 1 1972	Suzanne Cowan
M-12 lb.	24-3	41	22	10.97	104.14	5.58	San Miguel Azores	Aug. 27 1953	M. A. da Silva Veloso
W-12 lb.	16-10	36	19	7.54	91.44	48.26	Montauk New York, USA	June 24 1961	Gloria Better
M-20 lb.	23-12	40	28	10.77	101.60	71.12	Cape May New Jersey, USA	Oct. 9 1971	William Di Santo
W-20 lb.	24-8	40	23½	11.11	101.60	59.69	Nags Head North Carolina, USA	Nov. 12 1971	Mrs. Rita Mazelle
M-30 lb.	22	39	22	9.97	99.06	55.88	Avon North Carolina, USA	Nov. 27 1969	Michael E. Hayes
W-30 lb.	21-8	37	23	9.75	93.98	58.42	Truro Massachusetts, USA	Oct. 10 1970	Ruth M. Anderson
All-Tackle M-50 lb.	31-12	47	23	14.40	119.38	58.42	Hatteras Inlet North Carolina, USA	Jan. 30 1972	James M. Hussey
W-50 lb.	23-15	40½	23½	10.85	102.87	59.69	Nags Head North Carolina, USA	Nov. 19 1970	Mrs. Joyce Payne Ball
M-80 lb.	22-12	38	21-7/8	10.31	96.52	55.56	Arguineguin Gran Canaria	July 19 1971	Kenneth V. Oulton
W-80 lb.	21-8	39¼	21½	9.75	100.96	54.61	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	Aug. 8 1971	Katherine K. Ayers
M-130 lb.	20-3						Sandy Hook New Jersey	Sept. 13, 1976	Charlie Zaimes
W-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 19 lbs. (8.61 kilos)								

BLACKFISH* (*Tautoga onitis*)

LINE CLASS	U. S. CUSTOMARY Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	METRIC Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	14-6	25½	22½	6.52	64.77	57.15	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 17 1972	Linwood A. Martens
W-6 lb.	9	22	21	4.08	55.88	53.34	Bayville, L. I. New York, USA	July 20 1975	Deborah Kuno
M-12 lb.	13-3	26	19½	5.99	66.04	49.53	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	Apr. 20 1975	Nicholas J. Durney, Sr.
W-12 lb.	10-8	23	18	4.76	58.42	45.72	Montauk New York, USA	June 2 1973	Mrs. Joseph M. Rinaldi
M-20 lb.	21	30	—	9.52	76.20	—	Jamestown Island Rhode Island, USA	Nov. 6 1954	C. W. Sundquist
W-20 lb.	10-12	24-5/8	18¼	4.87	62.54	47.62	Asharoken Beach New York, USA	May 7 1962	Trudy H. King
All-Tackle M-30 lb.	21-6	31½	23½	9.69	80.01	59.69	Cape May New Jersey, USA	June 12 1954	R. N. Sheafer
W-30 lb.	11-9	26	19½	5.07	66.04	49.53	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 17 1971	Mrs. Charlotte J. Wright
M-50 lb.	20-14	32	30	9.46	81.28	76.20	Newport Rhode Island, USA	Oct. 20 1955	W. R. Peckham
W-50 lb.	17-6	27½	23¼	7.88	69.85	59.05	Virginia Beach Virginia, USA	May 5 1971	L. Truia Becker
M-80 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 16 lbs. (7.24 kilos)								
W-80 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 16 lbs. (7.24 kilos)								
M-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 16 lbs. (7.24 kilos)								
W-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 16 lbs. (7.24 kilos)								

BLUE SHARK (*Prionace glauca*)

LINE CLASS	U. S. CUSTOMARY Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	METRIC Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	205	95	36	92.98	241.30	91.44	Montauk, L.I. New York, USA	Aug. 19 1974	Stephen Sloan
W-6 lb.	193	108½	34½	87.54	275.59	87.63	Botany Australia	Dec. 15 1974	Mrs. Dulcie Chee
M-12 lb.	312	127	47	141.52	322.58	119.38	Montauk New York, USA	Oct. 28 1963	John S. Walton
W-12 lb.	150	96	32	68.03	243.84	81.28	Montauk New York, USA	July 22 1962	Dorothea L. Dean
M-20 lb.	218-2	117	42	98.94	297.18	106.68	Montauk New York, USA	July 22 1955	Mrs. Mittleman OK
W-20 lb.	293	126½	44	132.90	321.31	111.76	Montauk New York, USA	July 21 1963	Lucette Rinfret
M-30 lb.	437						Sydney Heads Australia	Oct. 2, 1976	Peter Hyde
W-30 lb.	284-8	128	42	129.04	325.12	106.68	Montauk New York, USA	Aug. 11 1959	Jacqueline Mittleman
M-50 lb.	371-8	135	47	168.51	342.90	119.38	Montauk New York, USA	Sept. 27 1969	Jack Bellock
W-50 lb.	298	138	40	135.17	350.52	101.60	Montauk New York, USA	Oct. 5 1959	Valerie Wuestefeld
All-Tackle M-80 lb.	410	138	52	185.97	350.52	132.08	Rockport Massachusetts, USA	Sept. 1 1960	Richard C. Webster
All-Tackle Tie W-80 lb.	410	134	52½	185.97	340.36	133.35	Rockport Massachusetts, USA	Aug. 17 1967	Martha C. Webster
M-130 lb.	400	120¼	52	181.43	306.70	132.08	Le Morne Mauritius	Oct. 17 1976	Philip Fleming
W-130 lb.	334	128	47½	151.50	325.12	120.65	Rockport Massachusetts, USA	Sept. 4 1964	Cassandra Webster

MAKO SHARK (*Isurus oxyrinchus*)

	U. S. CUSTOMARY			METRIC					
LINE CLASS	Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	342	104	44½	155.13	264.16	113.03	Port Hacking N.S.W., Australia	Sept. 22 1974	Norman Richard Smith
W-6 lb.	115	71½	36	52.16	181.61	91.44	Botany Bay Heads Australia	Oct. 27 1974	Mrs. Dulcie Chee
M-12 lb.	261-11	88	44½	118.70	223.52	113.03	Montauk New York, USA	Oct. 1 1953	C. R. Meyer
W-12 lb.	183	86	39	83.00	218.44	99.06	Sydney Australia	Aug. 1 1971	Mrs. Pamela Hudspeth
M-20 lb.	358	110	47	162.38	279.40	119.38	Swansea N.S.W., Australia	Sept. 14 1975	Geoff Allan Robinson
W-20 lb.	316	98½	48½	143.33	250.19	123.19	Bimini Bahamas	May 25 1961	Dorothea L. Dean
M-30 lb.	854	140½	73½	387.37	356.87	186.69	Port Stephens NSW, Australia	May 9 1971	John Howard Barclay
W-30 lb.	376	120	46	170.55	304.80	116.84	Sydney Australia	Sept. 7 1969	Helen Gillis
M-50 lb.	769-8	136½	66	349.04	346.71	167.64	Sydney Australia	Dec. 7 1975	John Richard Farrell
W-50 lb.	478	132	46	216.81	335.28	116.84	Broughton Island Australia	May 17 1957	Mrs. Ron Duncan
M-80 lb.	833-5	138¾	86	378.00	352.50	219.00	Kouare New Caledonia	Mar. 20 1976	Yves Devos
W-80 lb.	880	131	75¾	399.16	332.74	192.40	Bimini Bahamas	Aug. 3 1964	Florence Lotierzo
All-Tackle M-130 lb.	1061	146	79½	481.26	370.84	201.93	Mayor Island New Zealand	Feb. 17 1970	James B. Penwarden
W-130 lb.	911-12	134	70	413.56	340.36	177.80	Palm Beach Florida, USA	Apr. 9 1962	Audrey Cohen

WHITE MARLIN (*Tetrapturus albidus*)

	U. S. CUSTOMARY			METRIC					
LINE CLASS	Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	81	91½	29¾	36.74	232.41	75.56	Montauk, Long Island New York, USA	July 19 1975	Stephen Sloan
W-6 lb.	67	86½	26½	30.39	219.71	67.31	La Guaira Venezuela, SA	Sept. 20 1972	Kathryn McGinnis
M-12 lb.	103-8	96½	31½	46.94	245.11	80.01	Bimini Bahamas	Apr. 8 1952	G. A. Bass
W-12 lb.	122	99	44	55.33	251.46	111.76	Bimini Bahamas	Mar. 30 1953	Dorothy A. Curtice
M-20 lb.	128-8	102	36	58.28	259.08	91.44	Bimini Bahamas	Mar. 9 1960	James F. Baldwin
W-20 lb.	129-4	103	33½	58.62	261.62	85.09	Bimini Bahamas	Apr. 11 1963	Mrs. J. M. Watters
M-30 lb.	130-4	99	33	59.08	251.46	83.82	Bimini Bahamas	Apr. 18 1959	Leonard Hendrix
W-30 lb.	120-10	89¾	32¼	54.71	227.96	81.91	Bimini Bahamas	Mar. 29 1956	Mrs. M. Meyer, Jr.
All-Tackle M-50 lb.	174-3	104-1/3	35½	79.00	265.00	90.00	Vitoria Brazil, SA	Nov. 1 1975	Otavio Cunha Rebouças
W-50 lb.	130	95	34	58.96	241.30	86.36	Montauk New York, USA	Aug. 13 1951	Mrs. P. Dater
M-80 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 120 lbs. (54.36 kilos)								
W-80 lb.	142	98	34	64.41	248.92	86.36	Ft. Lauderdale Florida, USA	Mar. 14 1959	Marie Beneventi
M-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 120 lbs. (54.36 kilos)								
W-130 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 120 lbs. (54.36 kilos)								

WHITE SHARK (*Carcharodon carcharias*)

	U. S. CUSTOMARY			METRIC					
LINE CLASS	Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 40 lbs. (18.12 kilos)								
W-6 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 40 lbs. (18.12 kilos)								
M-12 lb.	96-10	67	27½	43.82	170.18	69.85	Mazatlan Mexico	Apr. 30 1964	Ray O. Acord
W-12 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 72 lbs. (32.61 kilos)								
M-20 lb.	1068	150	77	484.44	381.80	195.58	Cape Moreton Australia	June 18 1957	Bob Dyer
W-20 lb.	369	111	57	167.37	281.94	144.78	Cape Moreton Australia	July 6 1957	Mrs. Bob Dyer
M-30 lb.	1053	152	68	477.63	386.08	172.72	Cape Moreton Australia	June 13 1957	Bob Dyer
W-30 lb.	803	149	70	364.23	378.46	177.80	Cape Moreton Australia	July 5 1957	Mrs. Bob Dyer
M-50 lb.	1876	186	101½	850.94	472.44	257.81	Cape Moreton Australia	Aug. 6 1955	Bob Dyer
W-50 lb.	801	135	75	363.33	342.90	190.50	Cape Moreton Australia	June 11 1957	Mrs. Bob Dyer
M-80 lb.	2344	181	108	1063.23	459.74	274.32	Streaky Bay Australia	Nov. 6 1960	Alfred Dean
W-80 lb.	912	143	71½	413.68	363.22	181.61	Cape Moreton Australia	Aug. 29 1954	Mrs. Bob Dyer
All-Tackle M-130 lb.	2664	202	114	1208.38	513.08	289.56	Ceduna Australia	Apr. 21 1959	Alfred Dean
W-130 lb.	1052	166	72½	477.18	421.64	184.15	Cape Moreton Australia	June 27 1954	Mrs. Bob Dyer

SWORDFISH (*Xiphias gladius*)

	U. S. CUSTOMARY			METRIC					
LINE CLASS	Weight lbs. oz.	Length inches	Girth inches	Weight kilo	Length cm	Girth cm	PLACE	DATE	ANGLER
M-6 lb.	106-8	105½	32½	48.30	267.97	82.55	Cabo San Lucas Mexico	June 11 1972	James Perry
W-6 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 76 lbs. (34.42 kilos)								
M-12 lb.	120	103	33	54.43	261.62	83.82	Palmilla Mexico	June 1 1968	Russell M. Anderson
W-12 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 90 lbs. (40.77 kilos)								
M-20 lb.	183-8	120	41	83.23	304.80	104.14	Cabo San Lucas Mexico	May 4 1971	Charles C. Yamamoto
W-20 lb.	157	108½	39	71.21	275.59	99.06	Baja California Mexico	Feb. 11 1972	Mrs. James Perry
M-30 lb.	392	150	51	177.81	381.00	129.54	Nantucket Massachusetts, USA	Aug. 3 1976	John F. Willits
W-30 lb.	Vacant — Minimum Acceptance Weight — 235 lbs. (106.45 kilos)								
M-50 lb.	453	145	55½	205.47	368.30	140.97	Miami Beach Florida, USA	July 15 1976	Bob Trowbridge
W-50 lb.	492-4	141	54	223.28	358.14	137.16	Montauk Point New York, USA	July 4 1959	Dorothea Cassullo
M-80 lb.	530	149	59	240.40	378.46	149.86	Shinnecock New York, USA	Aug. 26 1960	Walter P. Margulies
W-80 lb.	772	154	70	350.17	391.16	177.80	Iquique Chile, SA	June 7 1954	Mrs. L. Marron
All-Tackle M-130 lb.	1182	179¼	78	536.15	455.29	198.12	Iquique Chile, SA	May 7 1953	L. Marron
W-130 lb.	759	167	73	344.28	424.18	185.42	Iquique Chile, SA	June 30 1952	Mrs. D. A. Allison

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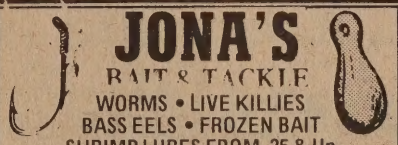
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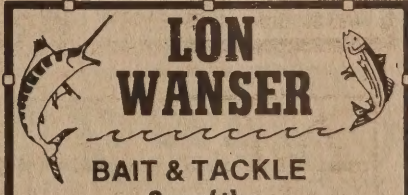
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action has been off Ocean Beach drifting with the wind against the tide and almost standing still. The flounder are concentrated from Ocean Beach to the mouth of the inlet. Neil said that co-Captain Walter saw a few weakfish caught off Ocean Beach on Sunday. The **Lady Ann** is making two "SPECIAL DAWN WEAKFISH TRIPS" leaving at 4:30 A.M. on Sunday May 8th and Friday May 20th. The fare is $20 a man with a 20 man limit by reservations only. Call Neil at 516 698-5918 for further info and reservations.

Captain Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** is getting ready for his 2nd tilefishing trip when we called him on Sunday night. This trip was all booked up and the next trip will be on Sunday, May 15th, which is just about booked up, so if you want to get in on this trip you better call pronto. The Captain said he is running a 3rd tilefishing expedition that will leave on Monday night, Memorial Day, and return Tuesday eve. These trips have been very successful and are booking up fast so give the skipper a call if you don't want to be shut out. The Captain said that the mackerel fishing has been slow as the schools are thin and scattered out. Speedy noted that the private boats speeding through the schools and spooking the fish hasn't been helping matters any.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle reports good weakfish catches on the weekend on the "Pride and Joy", Bob Schwartz of W. Islip and buddies Bob and Bruce 10 weakfish were taken up to 6 pounds 11 ounces on pink Salty Dogs on the ebb at Ocean Beach. Tom and Conny Susack and Al Kaisch had 12 big weakfish up to 8 pounds 13 ounces fishing Ocean Beach on large and small pink Salty Dogs with white heads. Al Lorenzetti Sr. and Jr. had 20 weakfish up to 6 pounds 8 ounces also at Ocean Beach on the ebb. They then bagged 25 big flounder with the help of a brimming chum pot. Offshore mackerel activity increased Sunday with catches made in the 55 to 90 feet of water range.

Hi-Hook Fishing Station had boats out all week long with flounder catches taken at Snake Hill and Sexton Island. One weakfish was taken on a squid strip from Snake Hill, fish weighing in at 5 pounds. Ralph and a nephew had 85 fat flounder fishing Sexton Island with blood worm and mussel baits and a lot of chum.

LINDENHURST

The **Sea Horse II** reports that flounder fishing was fair with ten fish from ½ to 2 pounds being taken per man. The pool fish are running up to 2½ pounds and are being caught at the Ocean Beach and Point-O-Woods areas. Capt. Tom told us that starting on May 7th, he will be sailing at 4 P.M. for weakfish.

Charlie's Bait and Tackle says the biggest news is weakfish at Ocean Beach. Larry Frank took an 8 pounder at the hole at Ocean Beach. Tony the

Shoemaker, Joey G. and Vinny found mackerel just south of the Whistler on Saturday while Frank Said bagged whiting and mackerel the same day. Some blackfish at the Sore Thumb. Les Berents took 60 flounder on bloodworms and mussels, amongst them a 1 lb. 8 oz., 1 lb. 10 oz. and 1 lb. 12 oz. fish. Doc Grell, not to be out done, bagged a 2 lb. 2 oz. flounder with his two sons each taking a 2 lb. 8 oz. and a 2 lb. 6 oz. flattie. This was at the Sore Thumb, which is a parently hot right now.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait and Tackle tells of weakfish at Ocean Beach up to 6½ pounds taken

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Bob Dippel	Surfmaster	6
Joe Dryer	Clipper	6
Buddy Dorman	Viking Skipper II	Open
Tom Duddelston	4 D's	6
Dusty Doerzbacher	Little Bear	Open
Paul Forsberg	Viking Star	Open
Paul Forsberg Jr.	Viking Starlite	Open
Stan Fay	Sea Hunter	6
Joe Grant	Dentuso	6
Walter Haab	Seacen III	6
Warren Hader	Devilfish	6
Fritz Hubner	Mistress Too	6
Murray Homelsky	Cherokee	6
Larry Keller	Jean Three	6
Boots Kohlus	Venture	6
Dave Kohlus	Hooker	6
Joe Kennedy	Fishawk	6
Bill Masin	Sue Jac	6
Dave McMahon	Marie III	6
Doug McCabe	Francis Anne	14
George McTurck	Sportfisher	6
Frank Mundus	Cricket II	6
Tom McCann	Hound Dog	6
Frank Pike	Leatherneck	6
Ralph Pitts	Margaret V	6
George Potts	Blue Fin IV	6
John Potts	Blue Fin	10
Richard Rade	Marlin IV	Open
John Sekora	Easy Rider	6
Teddy Stevens	Storm King	6
Paul Sundberg	Montauk	6
Bob Tuma	Dawn	6
Frank Tuma	Gannett III	6
Fred Thompson	Sandpiper	6
Dick Vigilant	Triton II	25
C.A. Veltman	C.M.B.	6
John Wolf	St. Lucy	12
George Worth	Gem	6
Rube Bennett	Hush Puppy	6
John Sweetman	Ebb Tide	6
Phil Lewis	Adios	6
Bill Bardieri	Lady Alice	6
A.M. Lach	Wilheric	Open
Kenny Brouse		
Don Chaloupka		
Carl Darenberg		
Carl Darenberg Jr.	Fortenate	6
Wally Drobecker Jr.		
Edmund Grant		
Charles Houseknecht		
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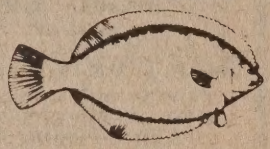

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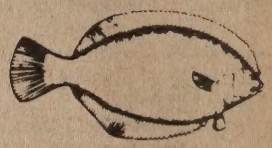

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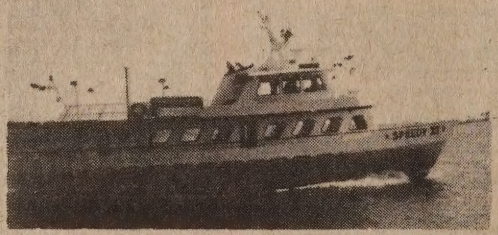

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by George Mills on an ebbing tide on red Viking Shrimpies. George told him that 10 pounders were not uncommon. Blacks on the open bottom off Amityville on worms. Flounder activity very good at Unqua Pt. and the Amityville Cut on bloodworms and mussels. Some mackerel outside, 50 taken by one customer.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports weakfish now from Amityville to Ocean Beach with the State Channel at Gilgo Coast Guard Cove producing weaks for several boats chumming with shrimp at the last of the flood on Friday and Saturday. Several fluke were taken along the State Channel. Flounders were bigger this week at Old Gilgo Channel and Gilgo Cove along with Zach's Bay. West and Squaw Islands dropped off this week. Fort Neck Pt. was good but with smaller fish. Mackerel have been spotty for the most part, but another school is working its way north from Jersey. George weighed in a possible 30 lb. test Women's IGFA record, a 36 lb. 10 oz. cod taken by Lucienne Jessen on the "Miss Marion III." 3 other cod and 7 pollack were also taken. Blacks at the Fire Island Reef and 3rd Wantagh Bridge on fiddlers.

MASSAPEQUA

Massapequa Tackle and Sports reports flounder fishing very good at West Island, Amityville Cut and the Massapequa Cove on the flood and at the last of outgoing. Worm and mussel baits with chumming extremely important. Marty and Vivienne Jacobs again did a leap job with 100 flounder on Saturday at Massapequa Cove on bloodworms and mussel chum, fish from 1 to 1¾ pounds on the ebb. Blacks at the T-wreck and bridges on green crab. Mackerel in 60 to 65 feet of water south of Jones Inlet but still scattered. Use bunker chum to school them up. Looks very promising for heavier catches by the weekend. Bill says that the shop will be open at 5:30 A.M. on weekends.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports the flounder activity remaining good with also a lot of ling and whiting for those going after them.

Best areas are west of the draw bridge, Zach's Bay and Massapequa Cove on worms. Weaks at Ocean Beach of good size. Mackerel on the outside, but spotty this past week.

Salice Boat Basin reports all boats had plenty of flounder fishing Four Corners, Massapequa Cove and the 3rd bridge with worms and mussels. All tides worked and a 2 pounder was the biggest for the week. Charlie heard of weakfish at Gilgo and the State Channel. Two fluke were taken at the Meadowbrook Bridge area on sandeels. 42 flounder was hi-hook for the week.

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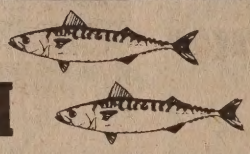

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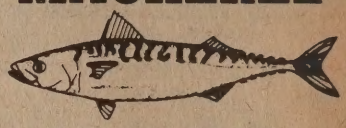

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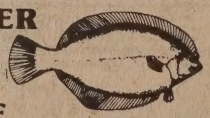

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BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies reports that the flounder fishing is excellent in the bays behind Merrick and Freeport with worms and plenty of chum with clam recommended for the bigger flounder. Some fluke have been taken on shallow bars with sand eels. Mackerel are very spotty. Weakfish are being accidently taken offshore with diamond jigs. The bays continue to be loaded with sand shrimp which is a good forecaster of a very good weakfish season.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports fantastic flounder fishing most of the week and weekend, particularly all through Rowboat Alley and all the way up the S-turn at the end of Rowboat Alley. A hot spot is off the 2nd green shack going towards Jones Inlet. 250 mackerel were taken south of Lido Beach in 60 feet of water on Saturday by Dr. Manfrini. Also, 11 skinny fluke were drifted on sand eels in Swift Creek. Cod has dropped dead.

LIF staffer Stu Miller and daughter Lisa fished the S-turn off the aforementioned green shack on Sunday. The last four hours of outgoing produced well. Stu had 7 fat flounder but Lisa out did him with 8 big flatfish and a 2 pound bergall which she hooked in the mouth and the back side.

BALDWIN

Arthur St. Fishing Station reports mackerel and whiting just outside the inlet. Joe and Sandy McKeefrey had a big day on Sunday with flounders on sandworms and mussel chum at Fundy and Swift Creek. Andy asked us to announce that he is carrying a new line of custom made rods and lures and that you can call him for details.

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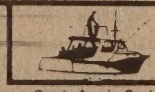

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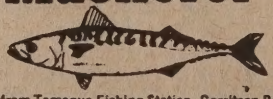

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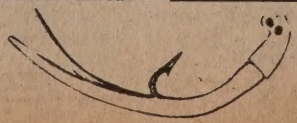

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The Starstream II reports that the mackerel fishing has been very picky all week and weekend long but that when this happens there is plenty of whiting and ling that can be fished for and readily caught by just changing rigs and fishing the bottom. Those that are doing this are taking home good catches of these delicious bottom fish.

Charterboat **Blue Fin II** called to report that Thursday through Sunday his charters picked mixed bags of macks, whiting, ling and herring, to the tune of 15 to 30 fish per man. Best catch of the week was a 4 lb. ling, followed by a 3½ lb. whiting.

Blue Fin

has been doing a good job fishing the same area for macks, whiting, and ling, taking 265 fish on Saturday and then giving his fares a rounded off trip with some flounder.

Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle tells us that Rich Littlefield brought in two weakfish and two keeper fluke taken out of Jones Inlet while drifting sandworms. Flounder action is good in Swift Creek and Baldwin Bay and the fish are large. Mussels and worms with plenty of chum. The winner so far in HL&S's sea robin tournament is Reggie Menninger. Don't pass this tournament by.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports lots of flounder both Saturday and Sunday. Buddy Koones and friends had 50 flounder on Saturday, fishing the first Meadowbrook bridge area. Another boat had 46 flounder and one herring at the High Flats drain bridge. Many boats brought in fish around the 40 mark using worms, clam and plenty of chum. Some small fluke have been bagged in the inlet. Weaks and macks are spotty offshore.

The **Aloma** reported good catches of ling, whiting and mackerel over the weekend. Starting on May 2nd, the **Aloma** will be sailing daily for mackerel and whiting. The **Aloma II** reports that the mackerel fishing was a slow pick over the weekend but the whiting and ling fishing was great. On Sunday the mackerel fishing was good up until about 11 a.m. then most of the catch was whiting and ling.

The **Capt. Al** reports good fishing for mackerel and whiting at buoy 2 right outside the inlet.

The **Miss Freeport** reports that on Saturday he had a big crowd from the Grace Messenger Service coordinated by Julie Bennetti and Lenny Scarola and they had fair flounder fishing with fish up to 2 pounds in Swift Creek, Scout Creek and the Coast Guard Station. Ramos Miasle of North Bellmore took a 17 inch fluke while flounder fishing at Swift Creek.

Charterboat **Sea Egg** called to say that Saturday saw very few mackerel come up, but they did get a lot of whiting two miles south of Jones Inlet. On Sunday they boated up with 125 macks and a load of whiting plus 3 fluke taken on clam baits. The **Sea Egg** reports that they are accepting '77 charters now.

POINT LOOKOUT

The Marie III reports that on Saturday the Point Lookout Fishing Club had the time of their lives fishing the wrecks. They loaded up with blacks, sea bass and ling. On Sunday the fishing was done S/W of the inlet where a fleet of boats were. If you were fishing in the fleet you took whiting, if fishing outside, you took mackerel.

Ed's Fishing Station reports good flounder fishing at Reynolds Channel and East and West of the Marine Parkway Bridge. The fish are averaging ¾ to 1 pound but can run up to 2 pounds. A few fluke have been taken at Swift Creek around 16 inches. Blackfish are being taken at the Meadowbrook and Long Creek Bridges on fiddlers. Macks are spotty but lots of whiting and ling are being taken south of the Bell Buoy.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** had flounder up to 2 pounds on Saturday and Sunday fishing the Duck Point area with worms and mussels. Richard Franks of the New Anglers Fishing Club had 8 keeper fluke off buoy 17 drifting spearing bait.

Beckman's Tackle reports that good sized flounder can be had in the channel on worms. Blacks are starting to be picked up under the bridges up to 4 pounds. Two bass taken on Friday at Lido Beach and one at Pt. Lookout with the biggest one being 4 pounds. 2 fluke were taken off the Pt. while flounder fishing. Beckman's Tackle is fully stocked with squid, large spearing and large sand eels.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports flounder up to 1½ pounds being taken on worms, mussels and clams at the North and South Channel Bridges. Blackfish are being taken at Rockaway Beach and the Marine Parkway Bridge on skimmers and fiddlers.

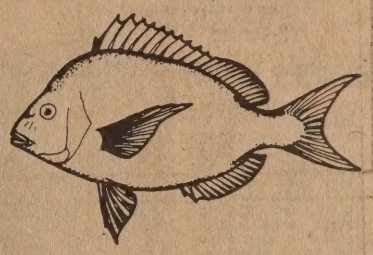
SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **New Eagle** reports spotty mackerel fishing on Saturday and Sunday but there was great whiting and ling fishing off Scotland to please the large crowds aboard his boat. His fares loaded up with at least half a burlap bag apiece of ling, whiting and some mackerel. The May 20th tile trip scheduled is booked solid but the Captain is now taking reservations for his June 5th trip.

The **Big Mohawk II** reports that mackerel fishing has been spotty but the whiting and ling fishing is fantastic. He is fishing east of buoy 4 in the morning and works his way to the NC buoy in the afternoon. On Saturday Gerry Harding and party from Brooklyn had very few mackerel but loaded up with the whiting and ling up to 3½ pounds. On Sunday the Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County N.J. took mackerel, whiting and ling. 20 to 30 fish per man was the average. Mr. Howard took the pool on Sunday with a 3 lb. 12 oz. whiting. A few fluke from 18-22 inches were also taken over the weekend.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports flounder around ¾ of a pound are being taken in the Great Kills area. Bass up to 8 pounds are being taken on artificials such as Rebels and Redfins using a slow retrieve in the back of Great Kills Harbor.



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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

A.P. White Shop reports very good flounder fishing at Hedges Bank with fish being taken from 1½ to 3 pounds. Crab Creek, off the Oyster Factory and E. Marion also produced fish. Not all boats out took fish, you had to fish the right area to catch. The trappers are getting loads of big weaks in the bay. Some are being taken on hook and line, but not many. Art said it looks like it's going to be a great year for weakfishing.

The **Brand X** took over 200 flounder on Saturday and over 400 on Sunday fishing Hedges Bank.

The **Wilhelric II** reported flounder fishing slow all week, but even though the quantity was low the quality was there. He totaled 70-85 fish per day from 2 to 3 pounds. There is a big showing of weakfish in the Cow Neck area at night and the weakfishing should be great this year.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt reported the first weakfish of the season taken at buoy 17 by Daniel Ven Chairutti. Dan was out mackerel fishing with a friend when he put on a pink Salty Dog and started casting. The fish weighed 4¾ pounds. By next weekend we should see more weaks. Mackerel fishing was good last Thursday and Friday. Catches over 100 per boat were recorded. Over the weekend catches declined but some fish were taken. Last Sunday's hi-hook had 46 fish. Noise from all the boat traffic out last weekend might have slowed the fishing. Flounders were good to little to the west of South Ferry; right where the small creek comes out from North Haven and over by the abandoned lighthouse. No reports of porgies yet but a few were taken in the fish traps.

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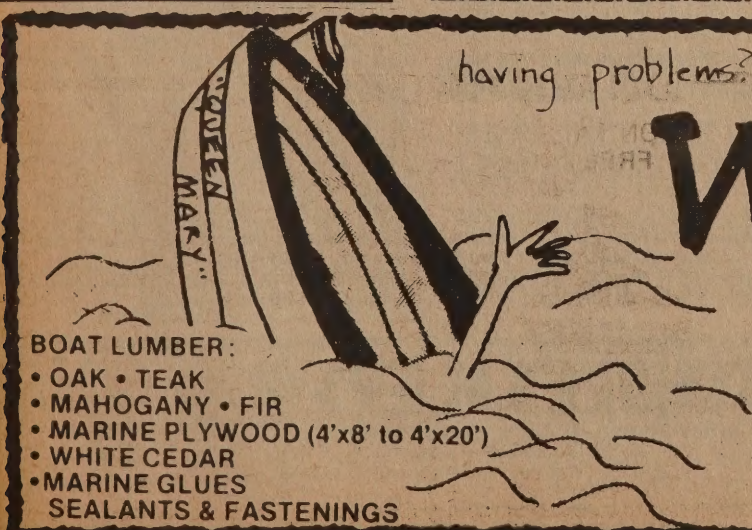

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Ralph DeMalteris and Al Smolski with 100 mackerel in the 2 lb. range taken off the Greenport Jetty. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt.

NEW SUFFOLK

Phil Loria of **Captain Marty's Fishing Station** said that there is plenty of big flounder in Peconic Bay in the vicninty of the station. There's been plenty of good weather and all that's missing are the fishermen. But those that do go out catch plenty of fat flounder up to 3 pounds. Some anglers are also catching mackerel and one local fisherman showed a 7 and ¾ pound weakfish he took on Saturday. The angler also reported having several other hits.

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports flounder up to 2½ pounds being taken off Nassau Point along with mackerel. Weakfish can be caught in the South Race on Salty Dogs and bucktails. Bob Bottenus of Huntington took weakfish up to 8 pounds in the South Race on Salty Dogs and bucktails. Bob Golding and Ed Goodfield of Riverhead took 4 weakfish from 6 to 10½ pounds along with a 6 lb. striper drifting in the South Race with Salty Dogs.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reported lots of action this past weekend. Mackerel were over by buoy 17 off Jessup's Neck. Off Cow Neck in the South Race area weakfish were picked up on all types of plastic shrimp. Biggest weighed in at the shop was 8 pounds. As always rumors of an 11 pound fish were circulating around. The fish traps over in Gardiners are said to be taking large numbers of weaks. Blackfish were taken here and there on sandworms. Flounder fishing is still pretty good, including a few spots out in the Sound. No special locations were given because of the feeling that flounders are here today but gone tomorrow. All in all it looks like we're in for a good season.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports fantastic mackerel fishing at Cranes Neck and buoy 11C in 75 feet of water with the average catch being 55 fish per man. The North Brookhaven Fishermans

FLY RODDING WEAKS

(Continued from page 23.)

or more. As mentioned previously, drift fly fishing from a boat calls for lead core shooting line, unless very shallow water is your objective.

Fly rod selection for weakfish is usually a slow action type of either Fiberglas or graphite construction (eight to nine feet long). A good system 8 rod and line used foro medium to heavy fresh water will suffice, especially if constructed from corrosion proof materials. Leaders eight-feet-long can be used with floating line and shorter lengths for deeper sinking line, as monofilament tends to float and reduce the sink rate. General fly line preparation and knots used for fly fishing were illustrated in my last article "Fly Tackle for the Salt." Several shooting heads can be constructed from regular 40 pound, 100 yard, spooled trolling line. Cut 30-foot lengths and store extra coils by securing with pipe cleaners.

Any good single action fly reel will do for storage of fly line, leader, and backing, providing a decent drag is provided. The drag force should be set at 1/3 the breaking strength of the tippet, or approximately two or three pounds pull from the rod tip.

If you haven't tried fly fishing for weaks, you're missing some exciting light tackle action. So get yourself a fly rod and try the easy drift method with grass shrimp flies. If ideal wind conditions exist, use one of the other fly tackle methods. Either way, this light tackle method of fishing will convince you that a simple economical salt water fly can attract and catch some decent size fish. You won't win any award in the "Saltwater Flyrodders of America" record book (as fly fishing from a moving boat is not acceptable for awards), but you will experience some fast fly rodding on weaks in the Long Island area.

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Club fishing outside of Port Jeff Harbor took flounder up to 3½ pounds on worms. Blackfish are slow with a few being taken while flounder fishing.

SELDEN

Angler's Den reports that Richie Giora took the first blackfish off Rocky Point which weighed in at 6 pounds 8 ounces. Flounder are being taken at Flax Pond on worms and mussels. Mackerel are scattered all over the Sound up to 4 pounds on mackerel trees and diamond jigs. Walter Lackel took the monthly derby with his 2 lb. 12 oz. flounder. Stripers are being taken at the Lilco Power Plant and at the Crab Meadow area on small jointed Rebels, small bucktails and sandworms.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Dick's Sporting Goods reports that fishing broke loose with flounder and mackerel. Average catch of mackerel is 50 per man and there are all the flounder you can catch out there. T. Brown had a 6 lb. black on sandworms on the incoming tide.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reports fantastic mackerel fishing at the buoy 11, Mt. Misery Shoal area. The fishing should be done from early daybreak to 10 A.M. when the action is best. There is good flounder fishing off Flax Pond with flatties being taken up to 2½ pounds on worms and mussels. The black fishing is slow. Schoolie bass can be taken on black back Rebels at East Black.

The **Betty W** reports good flounder fishing over the weekend with the average catch being 10 to 15 flounder per man. On Saturday Anglers Anonymous had over 200 flounder. Hi-hook was Dick Brunguell with 25 fish and the pool winner was Ernie Shapiro with a 2½ lb. flounder. On Sunday the Five Corners Fishing Club of Flushing had good action. Pete Pesiro and Bill Schruker Jr. split the pool with 2 lb. flounders.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** said the flounder fishing inside the harbor was real good. Last week Tom and Captain Harold Zarovsky got 55 fish. At first they tried by Honeyman's Island but got only small fish. They switched to between Duck Island and Cherry Lawn to do much better with bigger fish. Every day there's a big oyster boat that comes into the bay, stirring up the bottom which in turn has been attracting the flounders in large numbers. Flounders are also outside in the Sound. Ashroken Beach and Callahan's Beach were two good spots. Some two pounders were taken about ½ mile off Callahans. If you want to try from shore, Tom suggested Sand City. The best bait would be sandworms because you stand a chance at flounders plus blackfish which are starting to show up. Two hours before to two hours after high tide is the best time. Mackerel were caught all over the area. Some boats had as high as 200. Everybody is using a four tube tree with a diamond jig underneath. The fish seem to be hanging at around 20 feet down. Last Sunday there was a big concentration of macks 4 miles out between Eaton's Neck and the Lilco loading platform. Some bass were taken up and down the shore indicating fish are moving out of the area of the power plant. The spring run isn't on yet but you do stand a chance at a bass or two by trolling worms and spinners along the shoreline.

Joe, Pop and John Munno of Huntington Station display their catch of 200 plus flounders taken at Duck Island and Northport Bay on sandworms and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Ronnie's Bait and Tackle.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle tells us that flounders remain good with the best being at buoy 4 in front of Marshall Fields and at Duck Island on sandworms and mussel chum. Mackerel got off to a start this week with mid week being best for those that found the schools. Eaton's Neck and Lloyd Pt were best. A diamond jig on a mackerel tree was the ticket. Stripers are being taken in Cold Spring Harbor at the Causeway, best results with Rebels. Lots of shorts but enough keepers up to 5 pounds. Small blacks at Callahan's and Marshall Fields on fiddler crabs.

Four Winds Bait and Tackle reports good flounder fishing off Duck Island. These fish, from ¾ to 1 lb., can be caught on mussels and worms. Mackerel are scattered from Eatons Neck to Lilco and can be taken on trees.

GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports reports mackerel are being taken hot and heavy in the early morning off Pryble Beach. They can also be caught at Maxwells and Matinecock Pt. on trees. Blacks are slow but should be starting up soon. Stripers can be taken trolling worms in the rocky area such as Maxwells.

KINGS PARK

Mae's Way Fishing Station reports that mackerel fishing is fantastic. Paul Trafas, Steve Riff, Otto Medeck and Keith Costantino took out a rental skiff and almost swamped it with approximately 650 pounds of big Boston mackerel. These fish were taken on mackerel trees about 5 minutes past the NR buoy. On Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Doudera from NJ took 35 big flounder up to 2 pounds on worms and mussels at the Mansion where Paul Bruno took a bushel of big flounder also at this location with the same bait. Bob from the Station fished for one hour and took 80 mackerel.

CITY ISLAND

Jack at **Jack's Bait and Tackle** said a good number of school bass up to 6 pounds were taken over in Turtle Cove last week. The best times were when half tide on the way to high water coincided with daybreak. Some fish hit worms but the green Rebel was definitely a hot item. People were coming into the shop asking for it; they knew just what they wanted. Blackfish are starting up. The CBS Tower, Harts Island and around the bridge are worthwhile spots to try. Clams and fiddlers are the baits. The City Island boats are fishing for mackerel now. The fish are on the same time table as last year. As of this writing, the macks are from Execution to the east. Last Saturday the boats came in loaded with b-i-g macks. Flounder fishing is holding up at all the usual spots.

NEW ROCHELLE

Capt. Pete Pearson of the **Klondike VI** said he is now mackerel fishing. Catches over the weekend were up or down depending on what time you fished. On Sunday morning Pete saw mackerel all the way from the harbor to Norwalk but he didn't start fishing until the afternoon. He had his last flounder trip that morning. In the afternoon the fish were spooky and wouldn't sit still inspite of the 8 cans of chum that went over.

GROTON

Following Wednesday's trip last week, Capt. George Glas of the **Hel-Cat Dock**, called to tell us about a super day of fishing. Capt. Brad Glas, seeing the boats from various ports all heading in one direction, took the opportunity to go off to one of his secret spots, a place he has nicknamed the "Codfish Campgrounds." His anglers sure had a picnic catching so many cod in the 25 through 29 pound class, that it took quite a bit of time for a down-to-the-ounce weigh-in, in order to determine the winners.

Fifteen-year-old John Stomberg, of New London, won first prize, with a 29 lb., 1 oz. cod; and trailing by only five ounces, Gordon Tedford's 28 lb., 12 oz. cod came in second.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	9:57	10:19	10:43	11:07	10:43	11:03	11:33	11:48	12:52	1:29	12:57	1:31	10:01	10:25	5/5
FRI.	10:50	11:12	11:38	—	11:43	—	—	12:18	1:44	2:26	1:49	2:24	10:55	11:19	5/6
SAT.	11:46	—	12:00	12:37	12:01	12:44	12:44	1:26	2:40	3:28	2:43	3:20	11:55	—	5/7
SUN.	12:10	12:44	12:58	1:38	1:02	1:42	1:45	2:30	3:44	4:45	3:41	4:18	12:17	12:54	5/8
MON.	1:08	1:45	2:01	2:43	1:58	2:40	2:49	3:37	5:06	6:01	4:40	5:20	1:15	1:54	5/9
TUE.	2:09	2:46	3:07	3:52	2:56	3:37	3:56	4:43	6:27	7:09	5:45	6:22	2:13	2:53	5/10
WED.	3:11	3:45	4:12	4:52	3:55	4:36	5:05	5:45	7:36	8:09	6:48	7:21	3:13	3:55	5/11
THUR.	4:10	4:39	5:14	5:53	4:56	5:33	6:11	6:41	8:37	9:04	7:49	8:17	4:14	4:51	5/12

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish. simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide . add 6 " hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

5/6	5:50	8:04
5/11	5:44	8:09
5/16	5:39	8:14
5/21	5:34	8:19
5/26	5:31	8:24

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
5/18	5/26	5/3	5/10

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	6:40	**1:05**	7:15	**1:35**
FRI.	7:50	**2:10**	8:20	**2:45**
SAT.	9:00	**3:15**	9:25	**3:45**
SUN.	10:00	**4:20**	10:30	**4:45**
MON.	11:00	**5:20**	11:30	**5:45**
TUES.	11:50	**6:16**	—	**6:40**
WED.	12:25	**7:00**	12:35	**7:20**
THURS.	1:10	**7:40**	1:35	**8:00**

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TUBELESS SIZES	PLY RTG	LOAD RANGE	PRICES	FED TAX
10-15	4	B	56.85	4.18
10-15	6	C	58.85	4.37
11-15	6	C	64.85	4.60
12-15	4	B	77.85	5.18
12-15	6	C	83.85	5.41
14/35-15	6	C	94.85	6.20
14/35-16	6	C	95.85	6.39
12-16.5	4	B	81.85	5.31
14/35-16.5	6	C	96.85	6.70

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11-15	4	WHITE-LETTER	55.85	4.18
H78-15	6	BLACKWALL	51.85	3.50
800-16.5	8	BLACKWALL	49.85	3.56
875-16.5	8	BLACKWALL	54.85	4.10

PRECISION INSTALLATION INCLUDED. NO TRA DE-IN REQUIRED.

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